MINTERRORNEWS™ MAGAZINE

Bringing the latest mint error news to the collector.
Also featuring Die Trials, Test Pieces, Numismatic Rarities,
Patterns, Currency Errors and Discoveries from the U.S. Mint.

minterrornews.com

Unique Numismatic Discovery!

Uncancelled Proof Die From The Philadelphia Mint

The Philadelphia Mint Struck 500 Proof Gold 2 Colones for Costa Rica in 1897 (Only 7 Known To Date)

Issue 74 • A Mike Byers Publication

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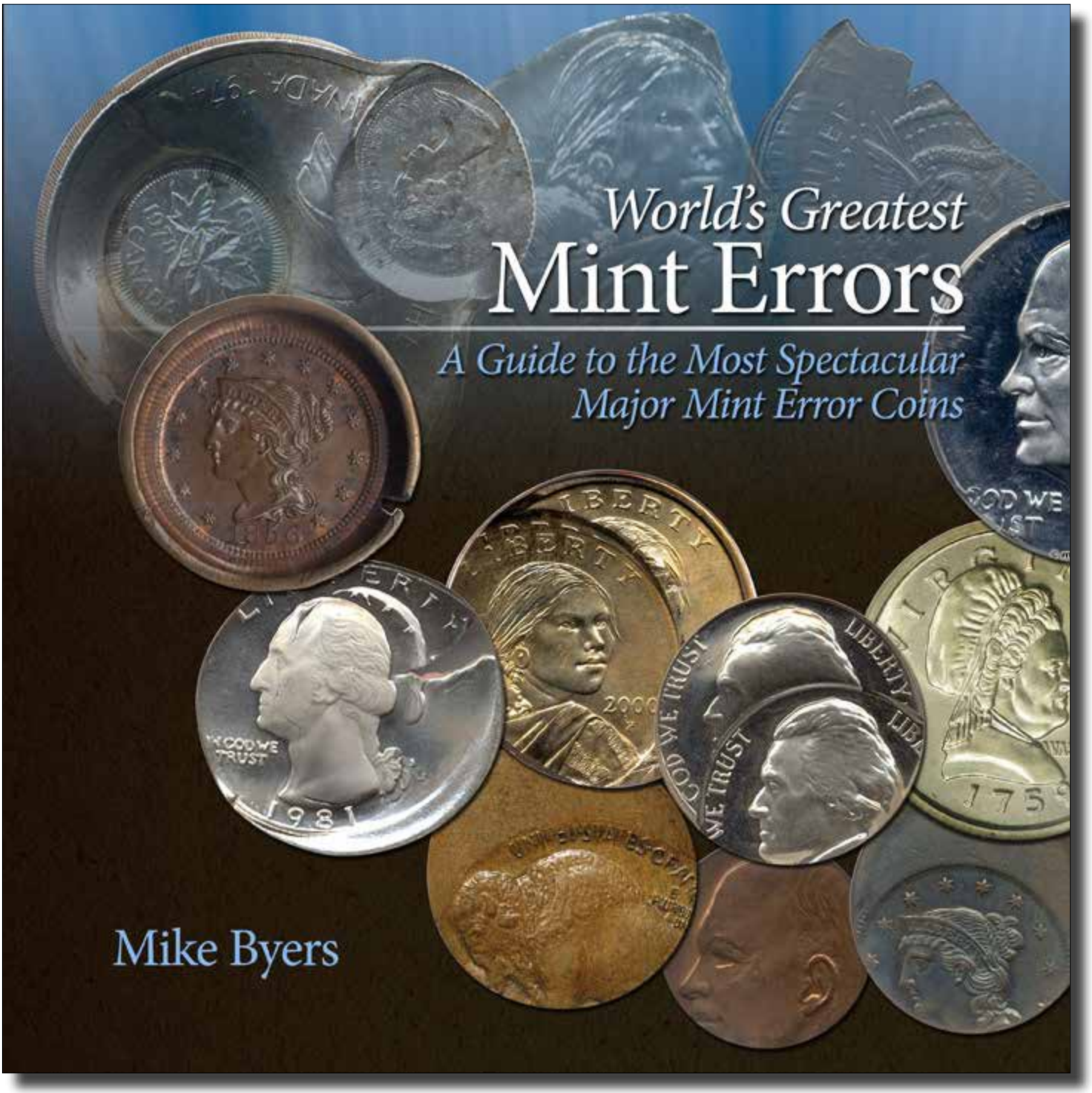

MINTERRORNEWS MAGAZINE
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Issue 74

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Mint Error News Magazine

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MINTERRORNEWS MAGAZINE™

Bringing the latest mint error news to the collector.

Mike Byers, Publisher & Editor, Welcomes You!

Welcome to Mint Error News Magazine, bringing the latest mint error news and information to the collector. This is our 20th year bringing you both an online PDF magazine and the Mint Error News website. There are over 1,400 articles, features, discoveries, news stories with mint error related info from the United States and around the World. Our website, minterrornews.com, has become the most popular and informative Internet resource for mint errors and is read by thousands of dealers and collectors.

Over the last 20 years with the advent of the internet millions of collectors have flocked to online auctions and dealer websites. Many people connect to various online forums and clubs to share knowledge and learn about Mint Errors. Everyone, including dealers, collectors and even investors have instant access to information as never before. The Mint Error market has experienced an explosion in collector interest over the last 20 years.

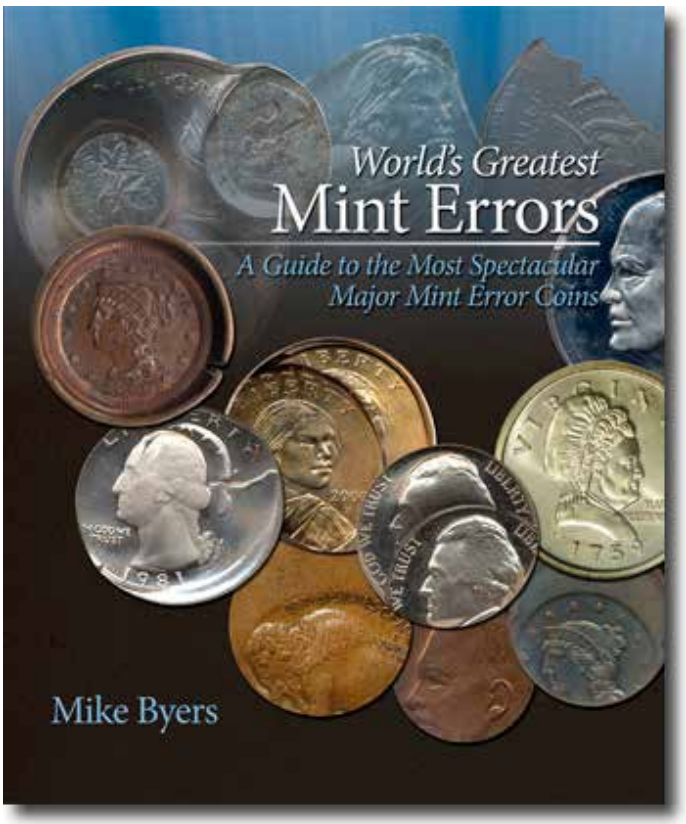
Time and again, rare and unique Mint Errors in the numismatic market have made headline news. Authentication and certification of Mint Errors is now commonplace. In 1991, ANACS was the first to authenticate, grade and encapsulate major Mint Errors. In 1999, PCGS and NGC began certifying Mint Errors. Major Mint Errors are now pursued, collected and traded just like patterns, territorial Gold, colonials and other interesting segments of numismatics.

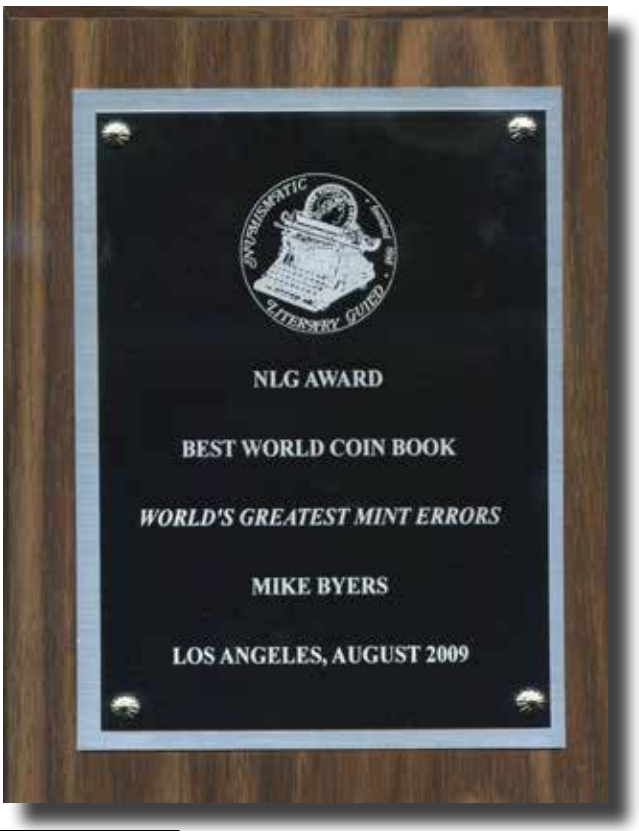
In 1975, I purchased a 1900 Indian Head Cent struck on a $2 1/2 Indian Gold blank planchet for $7,750 at a major coin auction. That price ranked among the top five ever realized for a Mint Error that few dealers or serious collectors would even consider. At that time price guides for Mint Errors were nonexistent and today that Indian Head Cent struck in Gold is certified MS65 by PCGS and is valued at six figures.

Mike Byers

Mike Byers (mikebyers.com) is president of Mike Byers Inc. He has been a professional numismatist for over forty years. He is one of the largest dealers handling U.S. Gold Coins, Patterns and Rarities certified by PCGS and NGC. He has handled major coin collections and attends every major coin convention. Mike Byers carries an extensive inventory as well as solicits want lists and is always looking to purchase fresh inventory and collections. You can visit Mike Byers and view his rarities at the ANA, Central States, FUN show and the Long Beach Coin Expo.

Mike Byers was a consultant to ANACS for Mint Errors from 2000 to 2006. He is also the Owner, Publisher and Editor of Mint Error News Magazine and the Mint Error News Website that was founded in 2003. In 2009, Mike Byers published his first book, *World's Greatest Mint Errors*, which received the NLG Award for Best World Coin Book and is available on Amazon. In 2016, Mike Byers was featured on Fox News in an interview with one of his unique mint errors.





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Mike Byers is the Publisher and Editor of Mint Error News. Consultants to Mint Error News are numismatic experts recognized worldwide including Heritage Auctions, Jim Stoutjesdyk, Dave Camire, Ron Guth, Marc Crane, Andy Lustig, Saul Teichman, Michael Faraone, Steven Contursi, Jeff Ylitalo, John Wang and Fred Weinberg (retired), Christopher Talbot Frank, Greg Bennick, Silvano DiGenova, Brian Hodge, Joe Cronin, Allen Rowe, Ian Russell and Jim Gately.

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President and Co-Founder of GreatCollections

Jim Gately

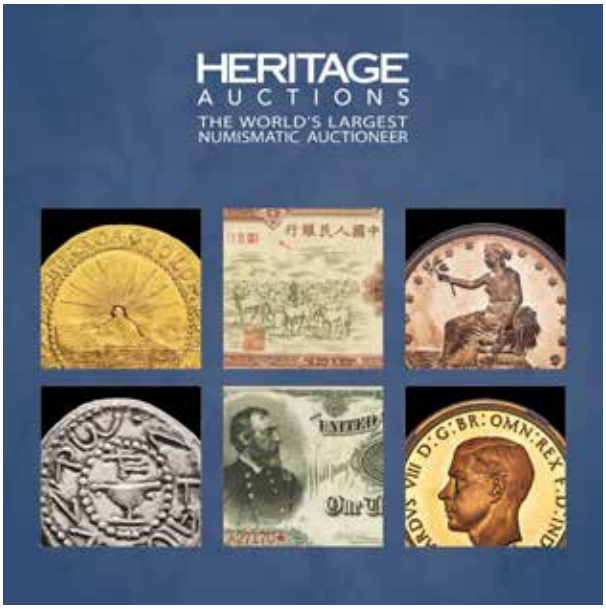
Expert on 20th Century U.S. Coinage With an Emphasis on Buffalo Nickels

Owner of the #1 Ranked PCGS Registry Set of Buffalo Nickels

Jim Stoutjesdyk

Jim Stoutjesdyk was named Vice President of Heritage Rare Coin Galleries in 2004. Since coming to Heritage in 1993, Jim has assumed a wide variety of responsibilities. He initially was hired as the Gallery Manager for Heritage's retail showroom. For several years he helped to develop Heritage's retail clientele and placed millions of dollars worth of rare coins with collectors. Jim's interest turned to wholesale trading and he quickly became a familiar face at coin shows across the nation. As Vice President, Jim's duties include buying and selling millions of dollars worth of rare coins each month, pricing all of the new coins available for sale each day, and overseeing the daily operations of the rare coin department. In 2019 the American Numismatic Association awarded Jim the very prestigious Doctor of Numismatics honorary degree.

Jim Stoutjesdyk is a Consultant to Mint Error News for U.S. Coins, Unique Items, Patterns and Mint Errors.



Heritage Auctions is the largest collectibles auctioneer and third largest auction house in the world, as well as the largest auction house founded in the U.S. We are also the undisputed Internet leader in our field, with more than 1.75 million online bidder-members registered on HA.com from all 195 countries. This loyal and growing community of collectors is a testament to the usefulness of our website, our reputation for professional business practices and our vast expertise in the field of art and collectibles.

Established in 1976, Heritage offers a wide range of U.S. & World Coins, Rare Currency, Fine & Decorative Art, American Art, Illustration Art, Modern & Contemporary Art, Urban Art, Comic Books & Comic Art, Movie Posters, Entertainment & Music Memorabilia, Jewelry & Timepieces, Luxury Handbags, Sports Collectibles, Historical & Political Memorabilia, Rare Books & Manuscripts, Ethnographic Art, & Space Exploration Memorabilia, Civil War Memorabilia, Photographs, Nature & Science, Fine and Rare Wine, Luxury Real Estate, Pop Culture Collectibles, and more.

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Dave Camire is considered an authority on modern minting technology and production, specializing in mint errors and Chinese coins. He has visited many mints, both domestically and internationally, which is not only insightful but useful in his role as NGC Modern World Coin Grader and Finalizer. His knowledge of the minting process is helpful in distinguishing mint defects from damaged coins and establishing a coin's authenticity and grade.

Dave Camire

Dave co-authored *100 Greatest U.S. Error Coins* and has contributed to such numismatic publications as Coin World (honored with being listed as one of the 100 Most Influential People), COINage, Numismatic News, The Numismatist and the Red Book. He has been featured on National Public Radio (NPR) and seen on Good Morning America and the Discovery Channel.

Dave is also President of Numismatic Conservation Services (NCS). With his knowledge and expertise in coin conservation, he has been an active volunteer at the Smithsonian Institution's Museum of American History, helping to preserve the National Numismatic Collection and establishing key numismatic displays at the museum. A collector at heart, he has been collecting since he was 13 years old.

Dave Camire is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors, Patterns and Die Trials.

Mike Faraone

Mike Faraone is the owner of Mike Faraone Rare Coins in Las Vegas, Nevada. He previously was a grader at PCGS for 12 years after 11 years at ANACS.

He has taught grading at the ANA Summer Seminar for twenty years. Mike has lectured on Mint errors and Counterfeit protection at numerous coin shows across the country. He is a previous president of the National Silver Dollar Roundtable and served as editor of the NSDR Journal for over twenty years. Mike can be reached via e-mail at: mfaraone@hotmail.com.

Mike Faraone is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors, Patterns and Die Trials.

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Ron Guth is a recognized authority on United States and German coins. He is a licensed Certified Public Accountant who has been involved professionally in numismatics for over fifty years as a collector, dealer, researcher, and writer. His books and articles have earned numerous awards, including the American Numismatic Association's Heath Literary award and the Olga & Wayte Raymond awards, the Numismatic Literary Guild's Best Numismatic Investment Book and Best Book of the Year awards, and the Professional Numismatic Guild's Best Book of the Year award. In 2003, Ron received the prestigious President's Award from the American Numismatic Association in recognition of his numerous contributions to numismatics. In 2021, Coin World named Ron as one of the Top Ten Most Influential People in Numismatics for the sixty-year period from 1960-2020.

Ron Guth

Ron created the CoinFacts website (now PCGS CoinFacts) in 1999 and sold the website to Collectors Universe in 2004 (where it is now presented as PCGS CoinFacts. Ron served in various capacities at Collectors Universe, including Director of Numismatic Research, President of the Professional Coin Grading Service, and President of PCGS CoinFacts.

Currently, Ron serves as proprietor of GermanCoins.com and as Chief Investigator at the Numismatic Detective Agency, where he provides expert provenance on high-end coins. Ron Guth is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Patterns and Die Trials.

Marc Crane

Marc Crane is a dealer specializing in rare U.S. coins and U.S. patterns. He started Marc One Numismatics, Inc. in 1991. He is a member of the PNG (#565).

Marc tied for 1st place in a PCGS grading contest and is considered a world-class grader and authenticator. He is a contributor to the Red Book and is permanently listed in the pattern section. His coin store in Rancho Mirage, CA is open to the public and he regularly attends coin shows and auctions across the country.

Marc Crane is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Patterns and Die Trials.

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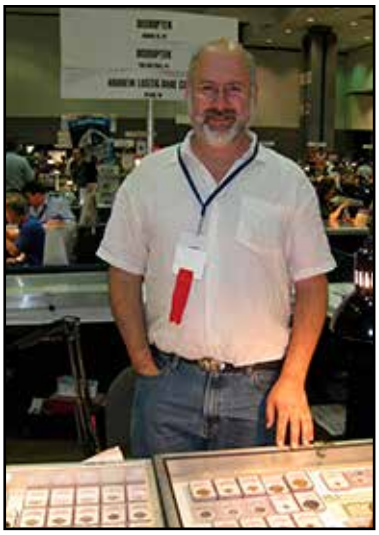
Andy Lustig has been dealing in U.S. and World Coins since 1975 and has attended more than 2,000 coin shows and auctions.

Andy is the co-founder of the Society of U.S. Pattern Collectors (uspatterns.com). He has been a member of the Professional Numismatists Guild (PNG #614) since 2005. He is a member of NGC and was also a former grader and authenticator for PCGS.

Andy was a speaker at the annual CSNS convention, presenting "Collecting Pattern Coinage." Andy was a major contributor to the 8th Edition of the Judd book.

Andy Lustig is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors, Patterns and Die Trials.



Andy Lustig

Saul Teichman

Saul Teichman is a co-founder and primary contributor/editor of the Society of U.S. Pattern Collectors (uspatterns.com) as well as contributor to the 8th Edition of the Judd book and Andrew Pollock's *United States Patterns and Related Issues* as well as many other books. He has been collecting primarily off-metal U.S. Mint errors for over 20 years and maintains extensive pedigree information for many error issues which have been published here in the past.

Saul Teichman is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors, Patterns and Die Trials.

Rare Coin Wholesalers has the largest inventory of U.S. Rare Coins.

Founded in 2001, Rare Coin Wholesalers has transacted over $2 billion in U.S. rare coin business and is a recognized leader in acquiring, managing, and selling U.S. rare coins positioned for wealth preservation and capital growth.

Steven L. Contursi is a Consultant to Mint Error News for U.S. Patterns.

Steven L. Contursi

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Jeff Ylitalo

Jeff Ylitalo has collected Mint Error coins since 1993. He has avidly researched & written about this area of numismatics since 2006 contributing dozens of articles to CONECAs bi-monthly publication ErrorScope and Mint Error News. Jeff is the former editor for the ErrorScope 2008-2017.

Jeff's research and collecting focus is now primarily centered on World Error coins. Jeff can be reached via e-mail at: jylitalo@yahoo.com.

Jeff Ylitalo is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors.

John Wang is an avid numismatic researcher and collector. His research focus is on absolute rarities including patterns, mint errors and exonumia, with particular interest in coin census, pedigrees, coin designers and minters. A historian at heart, John enjoys tracing coins and people through time.

John Wang

John writes for Mint Error News, the So-Called Dollar Fellowship and Wikipedia. He is also a top contributor to Collectors Universe Message Forums. Beyond writing, John enjoys creating coins, including co-creating a 2021 Morgan Dollar commemorative with Moonlight Mint, and inspiring a Frank Gasparro Liberty Dollar pattern design commemorative with Grove Minting Company. A collector at heart, John maintains a set of So-Called Dollar rarities in the PCGS Set Registry. John is founder and editor at PrivateMintNews.com.

John Wang is a Consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors and Patterns.

Fred Weinberg

Fred Weinberg is a highly respected numismatist, with 40 years of full time experience in the rare coin marketplace.

He deals in numismatic United States Gold & Silver coinage, as well as specializing in buying & selling Major Mint Error coinage of all types.

He is one of the original 31 dealers selected as an authorized PCGS (Professional Coin Grading Service) dealer at it's inception in 1986.

Fred Weinberg has now retired and was a Consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors and Die Trials.

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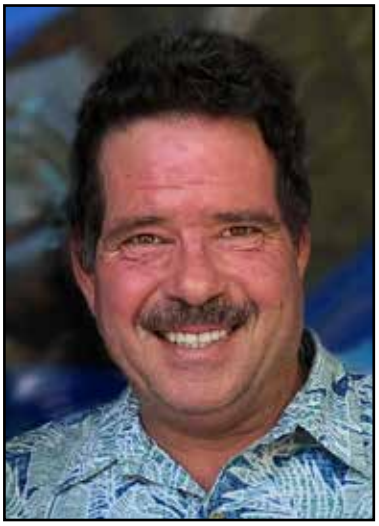
Christopher Talbot Frank is an error coin dealer of over 25 years and is doing business as CTF Error Coins. Christopher specializes in superior eye appealing error coinage with a wide variety of dramatic specimens. He has an artistic background as a professional photographer and now specializes in high end numismatic photography. Christopher handpicks every coin in his inventory based on eye appeal first and rarity second.

Chris's 800 plus certified coin inventory is basically an error coin type set in many dates and denominations. Although he carries all error types and dates, he specializes in mint state modern and the very rare ultra modern (2002-present) error coins. Christopher has authored many articles on error coins for Mint Error News over the last few years.

Christopher Talbot Frank is a consultant to Mint Error News for modern and dramatic Major Mint Errors.



Christopher Talbot Frank

Greg Bennick

Greg Bennick is a collector and researcher of major mint errors and has been actively involved in the hobby since 1981 when he made his first major error purchase, a Liberty nickel on a cent planchet, at the age of ten.

A professional keynote speaker on the topic of Build a Better Now® for the corporate and association markets (gregbennick.com) Greg writes for multiple print outlets on major errors. He maintains an extensive personal library of error-related books, pamphlets, magazines, and ephemera going back to the dawn of the hobby in the 1950's.

Greg is a board member of CONECA, and focuses his study on major US and Canadian error coins, significant ancient and world errors, and the minting process.

Greg Bennick is a consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors and trends in the error market.

Silvano DiGenova

Tangible Investments founder and president Silvano DiGenova is an authority on the rare coin market, grading, authenticity, and appraisals. In fact, since Silvano co-founded the renowned Professional Coin Grading Service (PCGS) and designed the PCGS coin grading standards, you could actually say he wrote the book on coin grading.

Millions of collectors and investors depend on Silvano DiGenova's expertise every day. He has been featured in Fortune Magazine's "People to Watch," quoted on the front page of The Wall Street Journal, interviewed in hundreds of U.S. newspapers, and has appeared several times as a commentator on CNN, FNN, CNBC, the Discovery Channel, the History Channel, and more.

Silvano DiGenova is a consultant to Mint Error News for Patterns and Unique & Esoteric U.S. Coinage.

Brian Hodge is a Partner and the President of Numismatics at Minshull Trading. Over the last three decades years they have been a leader in the numismatic industry and have grown into a formidable market maker, garnering the respect of every major market player.

He is a member of every major numismatic organization in the country, including PNG, ICTA, FUN, CSNS, and a life member of the ANA. He is a regular Red Book contributor and maintains consistent and up-to-date pricing to sustain healthy markets.

Brian Hodge is a consultant to Mint Error News for Specimen Coinage and Unique U.S. Coins.

Brian Hodge

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Joe Cronin

Joe Cronin is currently a History teacher, a former U.S. Treasury Department law enforcement officer, and has been a coin collector for over thirty years. Within the last ten years he has focused more on Mint errors, and also fake and altered coins made to resemble genuine errors.

He is the author of the popular error reference book, *Mint Errors to Die For*, has written articles for CONECA's *Errorscope*, and is the creator and moderator of the Facebook® page, "Joe Cronin's Mint Errors Explained." Joe often attends coin shows in the Western N.Y. area with educational tables on Mint errors and Henning nickels. Feel free to contact Joe at jcro57@yahoo.com.

Joe Cronin is a consultant to Mint Error News for Mint Errors and Counterfeit/ Altered coins made to resemble genuine errors.

Allen Rowe

Allen Rowe is the owner of Northern Nevada Coin, which specializes in buying silver dollars, gold coins, Carson City coins, gold scrap, complete collections, estates, hoards, investment holdings, coins, silver bullion, gold billion, and rare paper money from collectors, investors, and other coin dealers. He has been buying gold in Carson City, Reno, Sparks, Minden, Gardnerville, Lake Tahoe, Fallon, Virginia City, and northern Nevada since 1993.

An interesting array of dollar errors is currently available to be viewed on Northern Nevada Coin's website brokencc.com. The gallery includes several off-center Morgan dollars, a broadstruck Morgan, a spectacularly broadstruck Peace dollar, an example of a rotated reverse, a blank silver dollar planchet, and the Amazing Broken CC.

Allen Rowe is a consultant to Mint Error News for Morgan and Peace Dollar Mint Errors, especially mint errors and rarities from the Carson City Mint.

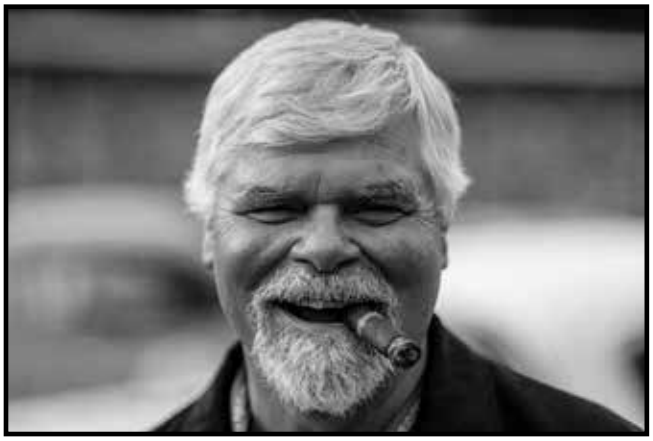
Ian Russell

Ian is president and co-founder of GreatCollections Coin & Paper Money Auctions. From a young age, Ian was interested in collectibles and started working on weekends for a stamp dealer in Sydney, Australia at age 14. From there he learned about auctions at Stanley Gibbons Australia, personally handling many important sales including the Purcell Collection of Kangaroo and Map Series, the Mackey Collection of Australian States/Pacific Islands and the Morrison Hill China Collection. Ian also put together the company's first paper money auction featuring one of the finest New Zealand bank note collections ever formed.

Ian is a member of the prestigious Professional Numismatists Guild, member 785 and abides by the PNG Code of Ethics. In 2021, CoinWorld Magazine named Ian one of the most influential people in numismatics. Contact Ian Russell at ian@greatcollections.com.

Great Collections holds the record auctioning the famous $1 Sacagawea obverse muled with a Quarter reverse for $194,062.50.

Ian Russell is a consultant to Mint Error News for Error Coins and Patterns.



Jim Gately

Jim Gately is the owner of the #1 ranked PCGS registry set of Buffalo Nickels. He also has other registry sets with PCGS.

He purchased the unique 1913 Gold Buffalo Nickel from Mike Byers for $400,000 and proudly included it in his set.

Jim is an expert on 20th Century U.S. coinage with an emphasis on Buffalo Nickels. He is a consultant to Mint Error News for Double Dies and Overdates.

Unique Numismatic Discovery: Uncancelled Proof Die From The Philadelphia Mint

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

This uncancelled proof obverse die was made at the U.S Mint in Philadelphia and struck proof gold Costa Rica 1897 2 Colones. This die is a unique numismatic discovery and was previously unpublished and unknown. It was just authenticated and certified by NGC.

Unique Numismatic Discovery: Uncancelled Proof Die From The Philadelphia Mint

The Costa Rica 1897 2 Colones is a world-class rarity and a very famous Latin American gold coin. It was only struck in proof with a recorded mintage of 500. There are only seven examples accounted for to date, including one in the Smithsonian Collection. The only example to cross the auction block in the last half century is the damaged example from the Cecil Webster Collection that was sold by Heritage Auctions. Experts on Latin American coinage estimate that if one of these were to surface and be sold or auctioned today, it would bring over $75,000.

Uncancelled Costa Rica Dies produced at the Philadelphia Mint are extremely rare. The only other uncanceled dies known *in private hands* are a pair of 1897 10 Colones obverse and reverse dies and a pair of 1897 20 Colones obverse and reverse dies.

1897 Costa Rica 10 Colones
Uncancelled Obverse & Reverse Dies

1897 Costa Rica 20 Colones
Uncancelled Obverse & Reverse Dies

The Costa Rica Central Bank Museum lists two 1897 20 Colones dies and four undated 10 Colones dies in their collection. *No dies or coins for the extremely rare proof 1897 2 Colones are listed in their collection!* It is amazing that this 125 year old uncancelled die survived. It is in excellent condition considering its age and the fact that it was a working die striking 500 proof gold coins.

The U.S. Mint in Philadelphia exclusively struck gold coinage for only five foreign countries including Costa Rica. In 1906, the Philadelphia Mint also struck the Mexico Gold 5 Pesos, but the dies were made in Mexico and the coins were struck both in the U.S. and Mexico. Mint Error News published an extensive 69 page report on foreign coins struck at the U.S. Mint. Click here for a PDF of the 69 page report.

This uncancelled Costa Rica 1897 2 Colones proof obverse die is a historic numismatic discovery and a unique treasure worthy of display in a coin museum or the finest coin collection.

There are only 7 Known Costa Rica 1897 Proof 2 Colones Gold Coins examples accounted for to date:

1. Smithonian Collection
2. Jenks Collection 1921
3. Hans Schulman 1963
4. Private Costa Rica Collection
5. Private Costa Rica Collection
6. Private U.S. Collection
7. Cecil Webster Collection (damaged) sold by Heritage Auctions

1897 Costa Rica 2 Colones Uncancelled Proof Obverse Die

Unique Numismatic Discovery: Uncancelled Proof Die From The Philadelphia Mint

KM# 139 2 Colones
1.5560g., 0.900 Gold 0.045oz. AGW
Obv: National arms
Rev: Bust of Colombus right
1897 Mintage 500

The only example to cross the auction block in the last half century is this damaged example from the Cecil Webster Collection that was sold by Heritage Auctions in 2013 (lot #27086).

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Incredibly Rare Uncancelled Costa Rica Dies From The Philadelphia Mint

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

1897 Costa Rica 10 Colones Uncancelled Obverse & Reverse Dies

1897 Costa Rica 20 Colones Uncancelled Obverse & Reverse Dies

These uncancelled obverse and reverse dies was made at the U.S Mint in Philadelphia and struck Costa Rica 1897 10 Colones and 20 Colones gold coins. These dies were just authenticated and certified by NGC and are unique in private hands.

Incredibly Rare Uncancelled Costa Rica Dies From The Philadelphia Mint

Uncancelled Costa Rica Dies produced at the Philadelphia Mint are extremely rare.

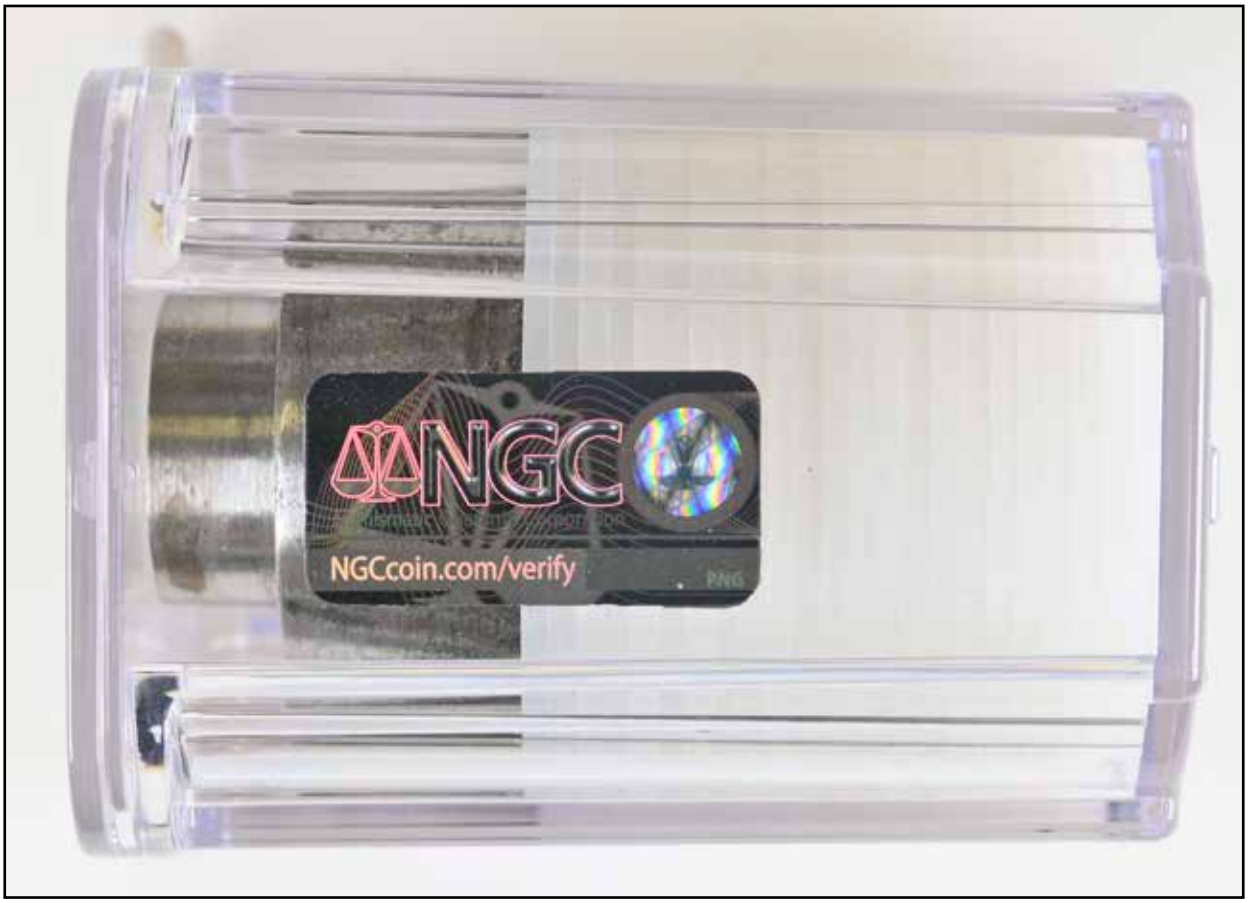
The Costa Rica Central Bank Museum lists two 1897 20 Colones dies and four undated 10 Colones dies in their collection. *No dies or coins for the extremely rare proof 1897 2 Colones are listed in their collection!* It is amazing that these 125 year old uncancelled dies survived. They are in excellent condition considering their age and the fact that they were working dies.

The U.S. Mint in Philadelphia exclusively struck gold coinage for only five foreign countries including Costa Rica. In 1906, the Philadelphia Mint also struck the Mexico Gold 5 Pesos, but the dies were made in Mexico and the coins were struck both in the U.S. and Mexico. Mint Error News published an extensive 69 page PDF on foreign coins struck at the U.S. Mint. Click here for a PDF of the 69 page report.

These uncancelled Costa Rica 1897 10 Colones and 20 Colones dies are historic numismatic treasures and worthy of display in a coin museum or the finest coin collection.

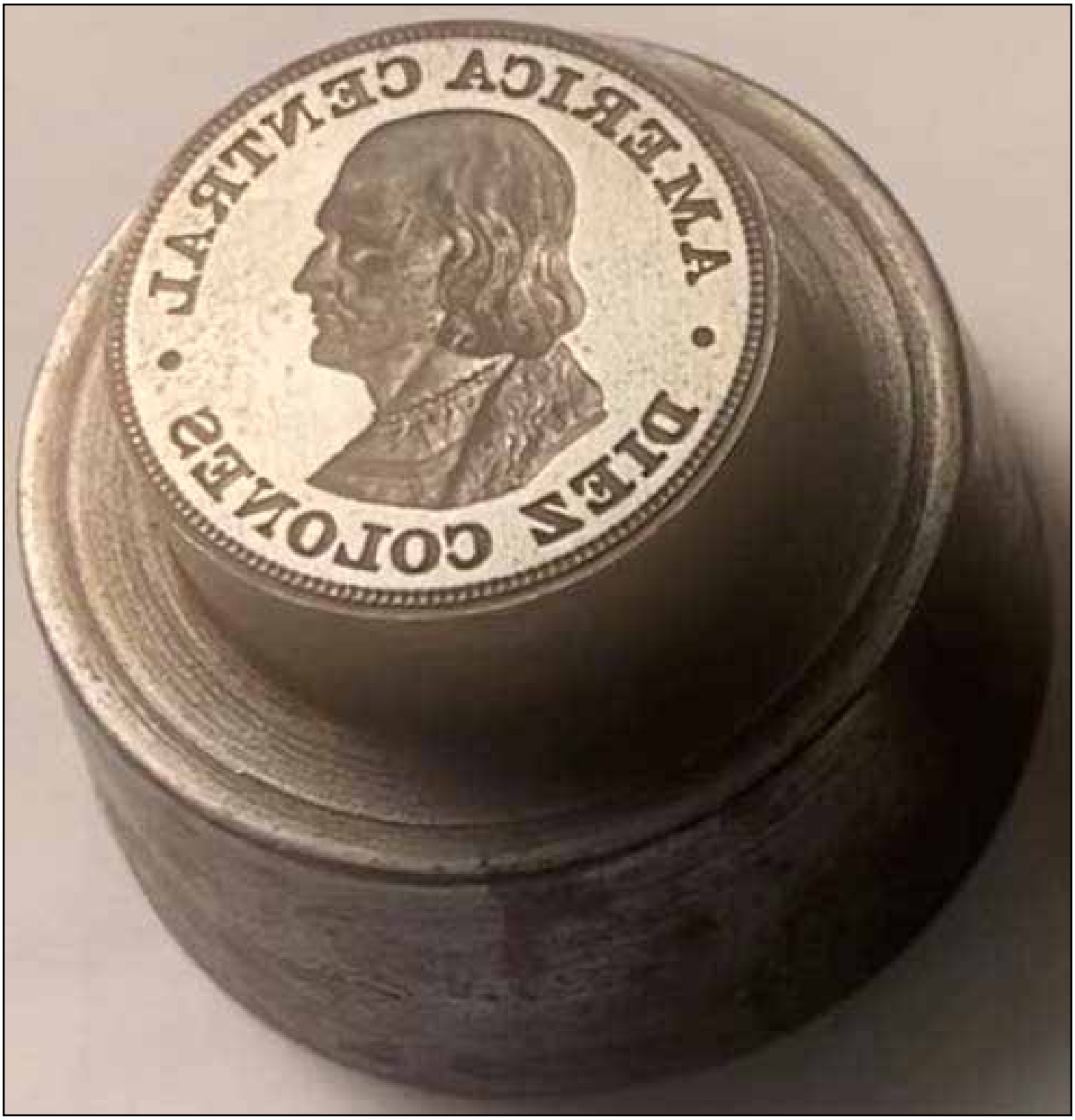
1897 Costa Rica 10 Colones Uncancelled Obverse Die

Incredibly Rare Uncancelled Costa Rica Dies From The Philadelphia Mint

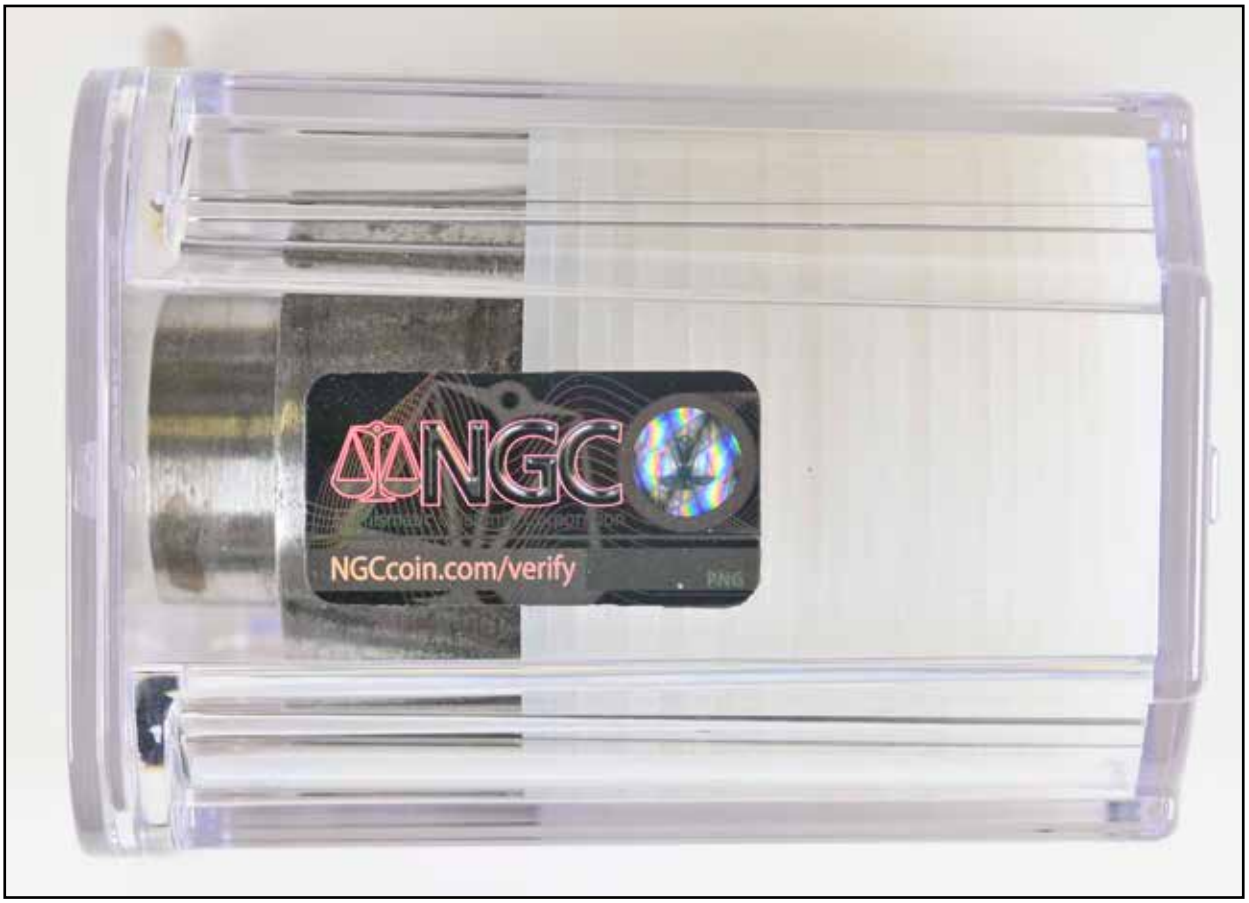


Incredibly Rare Uncancelled Costa Rica Dies From The Philadelphia Mint

1897 Costa Rica 10 Colones Uncancelled Reverse Die



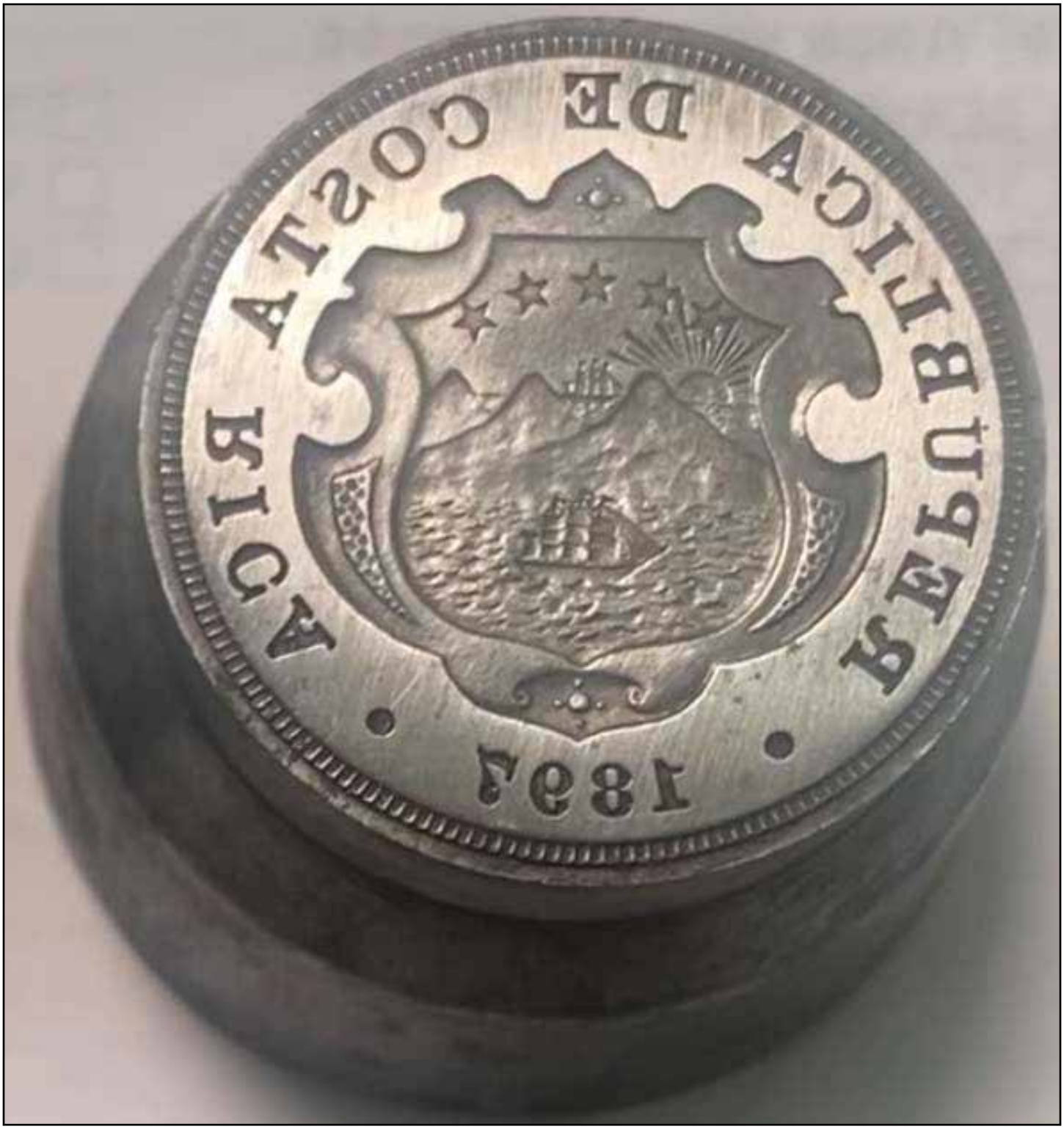
Incredibly Rare Uncancelled Costa Rica Dies From The Philadelphia Mint



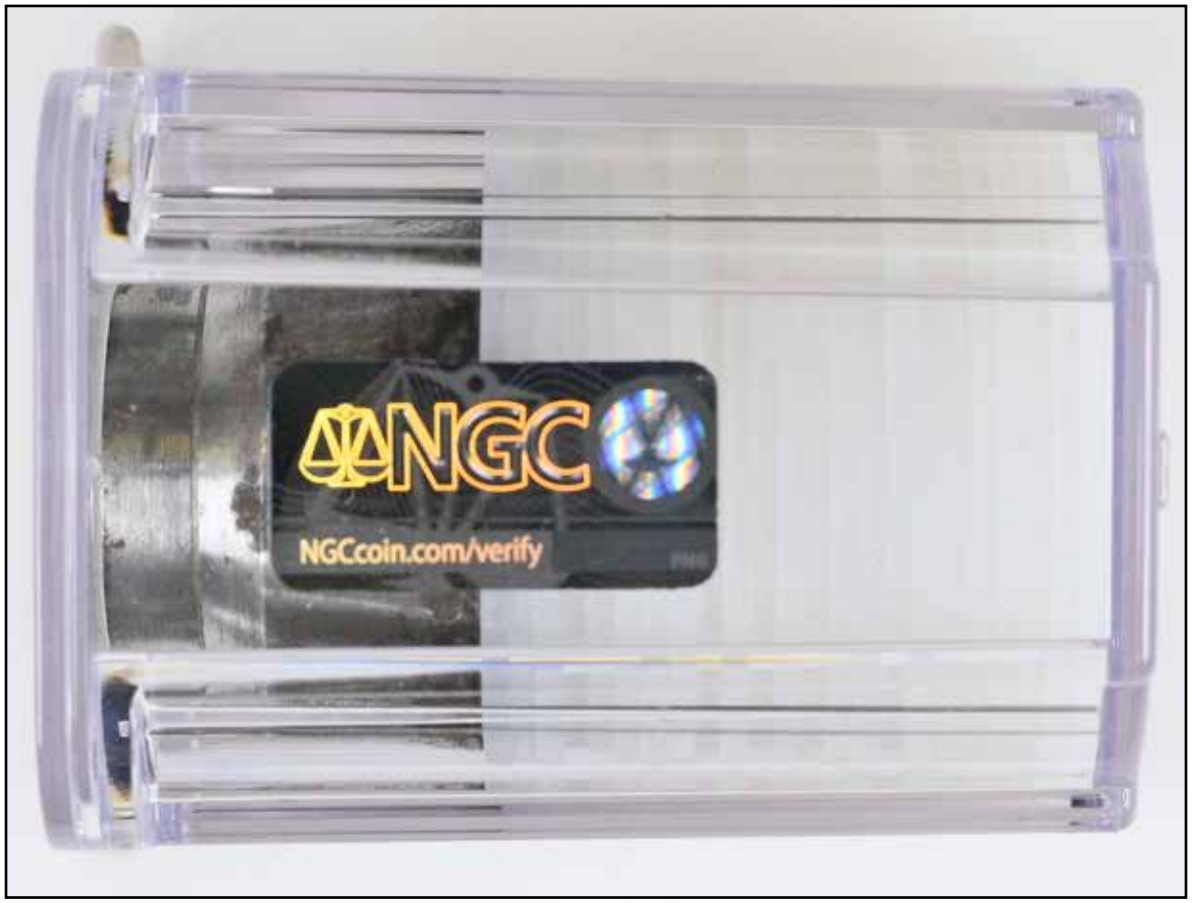
KM# 140 10 Colones
7.78g., 0.900 Gold 0.2251 oz. AGW
Obv: National arms
Rev: Bust of Colombus right
1897 Mintage 60,000

A 1897 10 Colones certified MS 64 by NGC sold for $2,585.00 in a 2013 Heritage Auction (lot #27097).

1897 Costa Rica 20 Colones Uncancelled Obverse Die



Incredibly Rare Uncancelled Costa Rica Dies From The Philadelphia Mint



Incredibly Rare Uncancelled Costa Rica Dies From The Philadelphia Mint

1897 Costa Rica 20 Colones Uncancelled Reverse Die

Incredibly Rare Uncancelled Costa Rica Dies From The Philadelphia Mint

KM# 141 20 Colones
15.56g., 0.900 Gold 0.4502 oz. AGW
Obv: National arms
Rev: Bust of Colombus right
1897 Mintage 20,000

A 1897 20 Colones certified MS 64+ by NGC sold for $6,000.00 in a 2023 Heritage Auction (lot #33510).

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My Authentic Appeal For You to Collect Some Inauthentic Errors

Joe Cronin ~ October 22nd, 2024

Other than being informed your rare and valuable coin has damage you didn't see initially, perhaps the only thing more frightening to a coin collector is learning your coin isn't even genuine. I'm sure one or both of these situations happened to many of us at one time, and after our denial wears off (if ever), it can be a painful and unforgettable experience that lingers for years; if you can't get refunded, it makes it even worse. Whether you learned it was once a genuine coin that has somehow been modified (i.e., altered), or absolutely nothing about the coin is genuine (i.e., counterfeit), oftentimes it makes no difference in that your coin may now be considered worthless to most collectors. In situations like this, usually the best you can do is learn from your mistakes and move on.

Unfortunately, the technology to alter/fake coins and currency is not only getting better and cheaper to acquire, it's also getting easier to use; no longer is this phenomenon limited to the technically savvy to produce above-average fakes. As the popularity of Mint error coins and their selling prices continue to trend upward, so has the number of opportunistic miscreants looking to flood the market with their numismatic forgeries. And since very few coin collectors and dealers specialize in "FIDOs" – freaks, irregulars, defects, and oddities – most aren't equipped to verify their authenticity accurately. In fact, even experienced authenticators at professional grading companies are fooled at times.

So what should we do if we're stuck with an altered or counterfeit coin, be it a Mint error or a "normal" coin? Of course, the natural and logical reaction might be to throw all of them in the trash. However, I am offering an unconventional alternative that may be unpopular with some collectors and dealers. My advice is this: hold on to a few of them. In fact, I recommend building a small collection of them, especially for a series, variety, denomination, and/or error type you collect. *What? Why is that?*

For one, by acquiring and studying altered and counterfeit coins, along with researching how genuine coins have been minted over time, you'll develop a better sense of what is and isn't authentic. Learn things like die markers, variations in metallurgic composition that occurred throughout the years, and what characteristics should or could be present on certain Mint error types. Take high-definition photos of your known fakes and "suspect" coins and compare them to certified, genuine coins on sites like Stacks Bowers®, Heritage Auctions®, Great Collections®, Sullivan Numismatics, and *Mint Error News*™. Over time, your skill level and experience may not only help you find a diamond in the ruff, but you'll become less likely to be duped into buying an altered or fake coin.

The second reason is because just like in the art world, some fake and altered coins – including a few inauthentic Mint errors – are actually desirable and worth a premium to some collectors. But before I get into why that is and which ones are worth money, I must be clear that 99.9% of all fake and altered coins are rubbish. For example, lead-cast counterfeits, mass-produced die-struck fakes (often coming from China), "vice jobs" simulating brockage errors, and coins where acid was used to remove clad layers or copper plating on zinc cents, are complete junk. (Maybe just save one of each as educational pieces.)

O.K., but what makes one fake worth money while another is considered worthless? The most significant factors as to what makes a particular fake or altered coin desirable depends on whether or not most or all of the following factors have been met:

1. Did the coin(s) make headlines, and/or was it (or is it still) controversial?
2. Is the coin a quality fake? For example, did it fool the public and/or even the experts for a while?
3. What was its impact on the hobby (and perhaps the public overall) upon discovery?
4. What are some of the unique and identifiable characteristics to it?
5. Is there a known counterfeiter(s), and if so, did the counterfeiter(s) get caught? If so, how did they get caught, and what eventually happened to them?
6. In its totality, is the overall story surrounding the coin(s) intriguing?
7. How many are estimated to exist?
8. And do the number of interested collectors outnumber the coin's availability?

Some collectors and dealers have taken umbrage to my recommendation that collecting a few fake and altered coins is good for the individual collector and the hobby overall. For example, some have claimed I am simply "promoting" counterfeiting, which of course is untrue. As a former U.S. Customs inspector in Buffalo, NY, I know firsthand how counterfeit merchandise adversely affects businesses, consumers, and the economy. Others have said I am ignorant of the law and will wind up getting people arrested. Specifically, they claim it is "illegal" to (a) own a fake*

*A handful of U.S. coins are illegal to own because they were never officially and legally circulated. Two examples include the 1933 gold $20 Double Eagle and experimental 1974 aluminum Lincoln cents, both which the government can legally confiscate without compensation.

and (b) it's illegal to knowingly sell a fake to someone. However, neither of these assertions are true either. What you *can't* do is: (a) knowingly sell a fake coin as "genuine" with the intention of committing fraud; (b) knowingly spend a fake coin in a transaction to defraud another; (c) produce your own coins (or dies) to replicate legal tender coins, and; (d) "alter, deface, mutilate, impair, diminish, falsify, scale, or lighten" domestic or foreign coins/currency being used as currency in the U.S. (See federal laws covering "Counterfeiting and Forgery" found in Title 18, Chapter 25 in the U.S. Code of Regulations.)

As I explained earlier, collecting and studying some fake and altered coins, and learning how genuine coins have been made over time (and how some Mint errors occur), will absolutely give you an edge as a collector. The hobby overall will benefit by you sharing your knowledge with fellow collectors. With millions of inauthentic coins and currencies flooding the numismatic market each year, we need all the help we can get. Knowledge is useless if it isn't shared, and as with most hobbies, the learning never stops.

O.K., so what are some examples of collectible counterfeits and altered coins that are worth some money? For this article, I narrow the field to those which resemble authentic Mint errors. First on the list is an in-collar, double-struck 1964 Lincoln cent, but it was only double-struck on the obverse side. I own five of these, and from time to time I see others listed as genuine errors on eBay® and Facebook® groups with asking prices over $300. Known as the **"Piacentile-Sheiner" cent**, these intentionally-altered coins are quickly catching on as a collector's item.

In the mid-1960s in N.Y. City, Victor Piacentile (a.k.a. Victor Pease) and coin dealer William Sheiner were marketing 1964 Lincoln cents that were double-struck, rotated in-collar errors which they claimed were "discovered" in U.S. Mint bags. Not only did they advertise these for sale (including in *The New York Times)*, but they even staged a presentation to collectors at a N.Y. hotel where they opened up a "sealed" bag and "discovered" some inside. The idea that both men were able to "predict" there would be this very Mint error inside a "sealed" Mint bag made their story too fantastic to believe.

Upon investigation by the U.S. Secret Service after receiving some complaints, charges were filed against the pair which included mail fraud, fraudulent possession and sale of altered coins, and conspiracy; roughly 100 were sold with a couple hundred more discovered after searches were conducted. At trial, Mint experts testified there is no way the defendants' coins were produced at the Mint, especially because the diameter was much wider than normal and wouldn't expand if struck completely inside the retaining collar. It was suspected with a great deal of certainty that a fake obverse die struck the coins after leaving the Mint. (There are a few genuine proof cents with only one side being double-struck and rotated, and I've also seen one genuine non-proof Jefferson nickel.) The court agreed the two conspired to commit fraud, and because they used the U.S. Mail as an avenue to conduct their illegal activity, both men were found guilty of mail fraud and conspiracy (plus additional charges separately) and sentenced to three months in prison with two years probation.

In terms of what these are worth, there aren't any formal records of sales that I can find, and very few people actually know what this altered coin is or the story behind it. If I had to put a value on these, I know of a couple unpublished sales where these sold as altered coins for $40 – $75 depending on condition. Grading company Independent Coin Graders (ICG) slabs fakes for educational purposes, and with some help from Fred Weinberg who verified the story surrounding these cents, I became the first person who had the "Piacentile/Sheiner Issue" description put on the label. Graded MS-64RB.

Notice the obverse side was struck twice with the second strike being slightly rotated, while the reverse was struck only once; this is because the obverse was struck a second time with a fake die. Though this error type is possible if one of the dies rotates before striking the planchet again, this particular one is inauthentic.

Next on the list is another intentionally altered coin, but it wasn't initially marketed as a genuine Mint error. However, those who come across these, and don't know their history, often assume it could be. For example, I've dealt with collectors who think this Liberty Head nickel could have been struck on gold stock, thus making it a wrong stock/off-metal error. After all, there are genuine Indian Head cents, Lincoln cents, and a Buffalo nickel struck on gold planchets, so it is at least plausible there could be a gold Liberty nickel on one as well. But as you can see, it was plated long ago to appear as gold. It even had edge reeding applied after it was minted as genuine gold/silver coins have, however the pattern is inconsistent. *But why plate this Liberty nickel in particular?*

On February 1st, 1883, the Mint released this new "Liberty" nickel series to the public. However, no one at the Mint at first realized or was too concerned that the new five cent nickel lacked the word CENTS on it; the reverse simply had a Roman numeral "V" meaning "five." Its nonexistence opened the door for criminals who sought to capitalize on an opportunity to plate them in gold, add edge reeding, and then pass them off as $5 gold pieces. However, the U.S. Secret Service was soon receiving complaints from business owners and bankers that racketeers – people who purposely engage in fraudulent business dealings – were passing off these gold-plated "racketeer" nickels as $5 gold coins. Newspapers from California to Washington, D.C. to North Carolina reported the scam to inform the public.

After weeks of complaints and bad media publicity, the government finally caved and began production of new reverse dies on March 11th, 1883. The word CENTS was added to the bottom (lower left) which also saw the motto E PLURIBUS UNUM being moved to the top to accommodate the change (and are known as "Type 2"). Today, **"Racketeer" nickels** are one of the more popular altered coins. Dare I say "genuine" ones should (a) be in a very high grade but dull in color and (b) have very slightly worn and dull edge reeding (center right). Like 1944 steel cents plated post-Mint, these are often faked/altered and plating or replating leaves an unnatural shine. Rumors that these were plated initially by a deaf-mute man named "Josh Tatum" are still unsubstantiated. Many decent examples are within the $80 range.

An 1883 "Racketeer" Liberty Nickel

Edge View of a "Racketeer" Nickel with a Reeded Edge

Edge reeding was applied to Racketeer nickels to mimic the reeding found on genuine gold (and silver) coinage. It exists to help prevent fraud as some would clip off parts of the coin and sell it for scrap, yet continue using it as a "whole" coin.

Type 2 Reverse: With "CENTS"

Note the changes to the Liberty Nickel's reverse design made within the same year – 1883 – to address the issue capitalized on by "racketeers." Can you spot the differences?

Type 1 Reverse: No "CENTS"

The third featured coin is one of the most well-known fakes in American history: Henning Nickels. Unlike 1883 "Racketeer" Liberty nickels which are genuine coins that were later altered post-Mint, Henning nickels are 100% counterfeit as both the planchets and the die strikes are fake. And though neither of these nickels were created to be passed off as Mint errors, many collectors who come across these for the first time initially think they could be.

In the mid-1950s, Francis Leroy Henning minted approximately 500,000 fake Jefferson nickels in Erial, New Jersey with roughly 100,000 of them making it into circulation. Though he produced five different dates, it was his 1944 issue that did him in. You see, nickels from 1942–1945 containing 35% silver are supposed to have a large mintmark above Monticello's dome; these are known as "war" nickels. In haste, Henning didn't strike his 1944 issues with a reverse die featuring that oversized mintmark (lower left). Though one single missing letter on a nickel may seem rather insignificant, the **1944 "No P" Henning nickel** caught the attention of collectors and the U.S. Secret Service, and ultimately led to Henning's imprisonment.

O.K., but why would someone confuse his fake 1944 "war" nickels as possible Mint errors? There are actually a few reasons why. For example, some coins produced at the Mint over the years mistakenly never had their required mintmarks added to them. (Technically, these would be categorized as "die varieties," not "Mint errors.") Many of you may be familiar with proof issues lacking the "S" mintmark like some 1990 cents, 1971 nickels, 1968, 1970, 1975, and 1983 dimes, and a 1976 dollar; non-proof issues include some 1982 dimes missing the "P" mintmark.

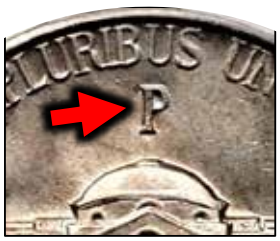
A second reason is that sometimes the buildup of hardened grease from the lubricated coining presses can migrate into the die-striking chamber. This gunk can fill in and clog up areas of the die's face where lettering, dates, and designs are located. Just as something stuck on the bottom of your shoe would show footprints with an interrupted pattern of the shoe's outsole, this grease can result in missing lettering, dates, and/or designs on a coin. And, yes, sometimes this grease can impact just a single letter. For example, featured on the right is a genuine 1944-P "war" nickel with it's mintmark missing. Coin errors like this are referred to as "grease strike-throughs" or even just "greasers."

Lastly, someone could confuse his 1944 "No P" counterfeit "war" nickels as genuine Mint errors because their metallic composition is wildly incorrect. Though his other four non-wartime dates are close to the metallic composition of genuine nickels, if scanned using X-ray florescence, his 1944 wartime issues will show they lack any silver content. Interestingly, there are some genuine "war" nickels (i.e., Type 2 with 35% silver) which were struck in error on normal, non-wartime-issue 5¢ planchets (i.e., Type 1); these are referred to as "transitional off-metal" errors. (Some have also been struck on planchets intended for foreign coinage made at the U.S. Mint.) Thus, someone could mistakenly assume their 1944 "No P" fake could be a combination of a "greaser" missing the mintmark struck on a transitional non-silver planchet. Although that would be highly unlikely, it's not impossible.

As for a value, 1944 "No P" Hennings sell for around $200+, with his other dates ranging from $400 – $900+ depending on rarity and condition. (See my book, *The Henning Nickels Collector's Guide,* for more detailed information on these fascinating fakes.)

1944 "No P" Henning Nickel: Counterfeit

Genuine "War" Nickel
Note the oversized mintmark above Monticello's dome on the reverse.



Genuine 1944-P: "Greaser"

Note the "P" mintmark on this greaser is just barely visible.

A Poorly-altered 1944–P

You know a counterfeit coin has numismatic value when even the "genuine" fakes start getting faked. Someone likely altered this 1944 nickel to trick someone into thinking it was a Henning issue.

The Controversial 1959-D Hofmann "Mule" Lincoln Cent with a "Wheat" Reverse

Genuine or Not?

Photos used with permission from Glenn Onishi, C.O.O. of Ira & Larry Goldberg Coins & Collectibles, Inc.

Then there is this coin above which is one of the most expensive "authenticity-in-question" coins I can ever recall hearing about. It's reported that Mark Hofmann, a Salt Lake City rare documents collector and dealer, was going to be called out as a fraud by people in the Mormon Church who suspected he was trying to sell – and had already sold – multiple historic Mormon Church documents (in addition to other documents) that were fake. He then attempted to delay and deflect suspicion by making and sending pipe bombs to those pressuring him to see documents he claimed to have. Not having enough time to forge them, he upped his resume from a forger to a murderer of two people in 1985. Police suspected his involvement when he became injured by one of his own bombs (which he was attempting to deliver to a third person), but his statements didn't add up to the evidence; he was ultimately convicted on multiple counts including murder and is still in prison.

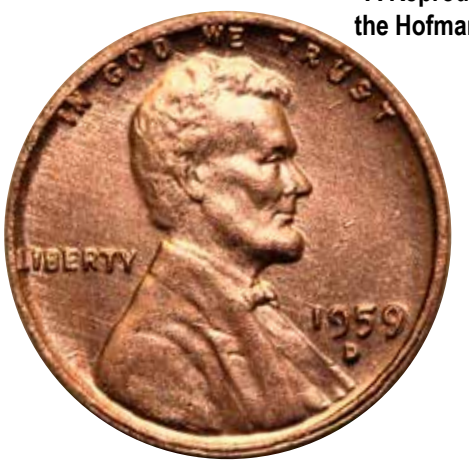
However, from his prison cell Hofmann claimed responsibility for the forging of this 1959-D Lincoln cent "mule" after news of its discovery was made public. The reverse erroneously has the "Wheat" rather than the "Lincoln Memorial" design which was switched in 1959, thus the mismatched dies make it a "mule" error. Hofmann claims the police seized it from his house after his arrest and stole it, only to be found years later in the hands of a collector. If anyone had the IQ and means of making forgeries, it was Hofmann – the best known forger in American history – whose documents even fooled nationally-known and well-respected document examiners and museum curators.

The Secret Service has stated after two separate investigations that this 1959-D Lincoln cent "mule" is genuine. However, authenticators at professional coin-grading companies and other well-respected Mint error experts disagree. The fact that there is still such a strong difference of opinion to this day between numismatic experts and investigators at the U.S. Treasury Department is truly fascinating. *Who is actually correct? Is it genuine or not?* Well, one thing that is 100% certain is that it sold for $50,000 at a Goldberg auction in 2019. What will this disputed **1959-D Hofmann "Wheat" Reverse "Mule"** go for next time?

Again, another clue that an infamous inauthentic coin might be worth money is if a fake coin itself is faked.

Coins like Piacentile/Sheiner cents, Racketeer nickels, Henning nickels, and even the Hofmann "mule" above are often replicated. That includes this mass-produced and completely worthless reproduction of the 1959-D Hofmann "Mule" on the immediate right. I purchased this one for $1 to use as a visual aid for seminars on counterfeits.

A Reproduction of the Hofmann "Mule"



Lastly, no other situation in modern American numismatic history has created a greater sense of panic among collectors, dealers, and professional grading companies than when a large group of inauthentic error coins – including this one below – hit the market in the mid-2010s. Literally hundreds of coins were being offered for sale on sites like eBay®, and directly to dealers/collectors, featuring absolutely fantastic and unbelievable errors, some of which have never been seen before. Errors like "Ike" dollars struck on cent planchets with massive curved clips, and Washington "50 State Quarters Series" struck on cent planchets*, wowed and amazed coin nerds everywhere. Sale prices reached multiple thousands. Major grading companies boosted the confidence of wary buyers by certifying some of them, which in turn caused sale prices to climb even higher. The craze was peaking for coins being offered by someone named "Charles Silverstone" (a.k.a. "Mike McCoy"), who was selling these **"Silverstone" errors** at shows and on eBay® under the seller name of "National1966." Then, suddenly, the frenzy crashed when it was learned weeks later many of these were just masterfully-made coins forged to resemble genuine errors. *What tipped off the experts?*

Mint error dealer and numismatist, Jon Sullivan (Sullivan Numismatics), informed me he discovered what was going on "by having a group of the coins in one place to compare them." He noticed very quickly a few weren't genuine, which only aroused suspicion that the others weren't either. Through Jon's research and close examination in conjunction with a group of other dealers, he began to notice that "some of the same dies were being used on different errors of wildly different dates." Many of them also featured mintages from different Mints. Basically, this means that the same exact dies would've had to have been passed around back and forth from Philadelphia, Denver, and San Francisco over a period spanning multiple years. Sullivan said the chance of this happening is "totally impossible in any remotely reasonable scenario."

What made them much more difficult to detect was that the error coins consisted of "authentic Mint planchets, genuine error coins, or normal coins, and then [he] created errors over top of them" with fake dies. Because the quality of these fakes is so convincing, Sullivan suspects Silverstone (or someone else) likely created them "at some minting institution which would have had excellent equipment." Many experts suspect their production was in Eastern Europe, possibly Bulgaria where Silverstone once listed his location on eBay®. (I suspect this was part of a larger criminal racket and he didn't work alone.)

Grading companies like PCGS®, NGC®, and ANACS® took immediate and appropriate action to inform the public and remedy the situation. Everyone who submitted these coins for certification was refunded what they paid for them if they returned them and provided appropriate paperwork. eBay® and PayPal® also reimbursed people who bought from Silverstone. Even Silverstone himself refunded some people electronically, but many never got refunded.

Who "Charles Silverstone" really is, what he's doing now, and where he is currently, are all unknown. (He listed both a St. Petersburg and a Clearwater, Florida address while he was selling). As of this writing, he hasn't been held accountable. A few of his errors (slabbed and raw) still pop up at times for sale online, but many people like myself actively try to get these removed. Hopefully after reading this, you'll also have your guard up. *Is it possible some day these "Silverstone" errors will be just as collectible as the other featured coins?* Yes, it is. In fact, I know people personally who've paid over $100 for some of his known fakes, and for the few still remaining in TPG holders, some sale prices have reached upwards of $300. However, only time will tell.

2000-P Virginia State Quarter Struck on a 1 Cent Planchet ("Silverstone" Error)

*Some genuine 50 State quarters on cent planchets do exist.

In conclusion, I stand by my claim that it's worth your time to study and even collect a few known counterfeit and altered coins. Minting errors should be included because they are no longer seen as a fringe niche in the hobby, and as their popularity and sale prices continue to rise, so too does the number of fake and altered coins entering the marketplace. Knowing how genuine coins have been minted over time, how forgers have created their phonies through the years, and learning which fakes fooled the experts and why, will all help you sharpen your skills.

As if things aren't bad enough, the counterfeiting and altering isn't just limited to the coins. Grading company slabs, labels, holograms, and paperwork are also being faked. So are CAC® stickers, U.S. Mint packaging, inserts, Mint bags, and GSA holders. (I'd advise you to collect some of these as well.)

However, I am also a History teacher by trade in addition to being a numismatist. I acknowledge that sometimes even the ugly chapters of history are interesting, and an intriguing story will always find an audience. Good or bad, some people like to feel a bit more connected to history by "owning" a piece of history – an assassin's gun, a dictator's hat, and, yes, even a famous fake. So, even though I acknowledge that 99.9% of fake and altered coins are garbage, a fraction of those which made history are actually worth some "real" money.

Above-average Inauthentic Errors

All three of these coins on the right are good enough to fool even experienced collectors. Without knowing how to tell that each was struck with a set of fake dies, someone may have lost a significant amount of money. For example, a genuine 1943 cent-on-dime double denomination once sold for just under $34,000.

Each of these three coins was at one time an unadulterated, genuine U.S. Mint product. For the 1970-D nickel, the die strike is fake, but the planchet is genuine, or at least it matches the weight and composition of a normal copper Lincoln cent. The 1943 Mercury dime understrike and planchet are genuine, but the 1943 Lincoln cent overstrike is fake. Similarly, the original understrike on the 2001-P Washington quarter and the planchet are genuine, but the other two off-center overstrikes are from fake dies.

Some of the signs of a fake die strike can include weak or fuzzy details, an unnaturally brilliant luster, die markers, etc. Learning the minting process and how it's changed over time, how genuine errors occur and what they should look like, what methods counterfeiters use, studying some famous fakes, and collecting and studying some of your own fakes and altered coins will help make you and the hobby better overall. (Your wallet will also thank you.)

Joe Cronin is the author of two books: **Mint Errors to Die For *and* The Henning Nickels Collectors' Guide. *Contact Joe for copies at jcro57@yahoo.com***

1970-D 5¢ on a 1¢ Copper Planchet

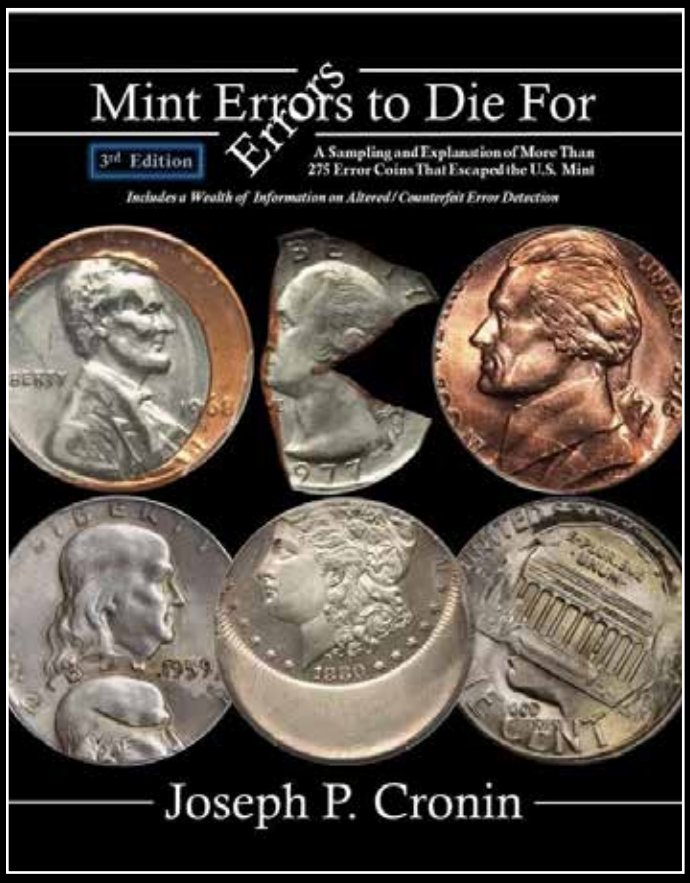
1943 1¢ on a 1943 10¢ Double Denomination

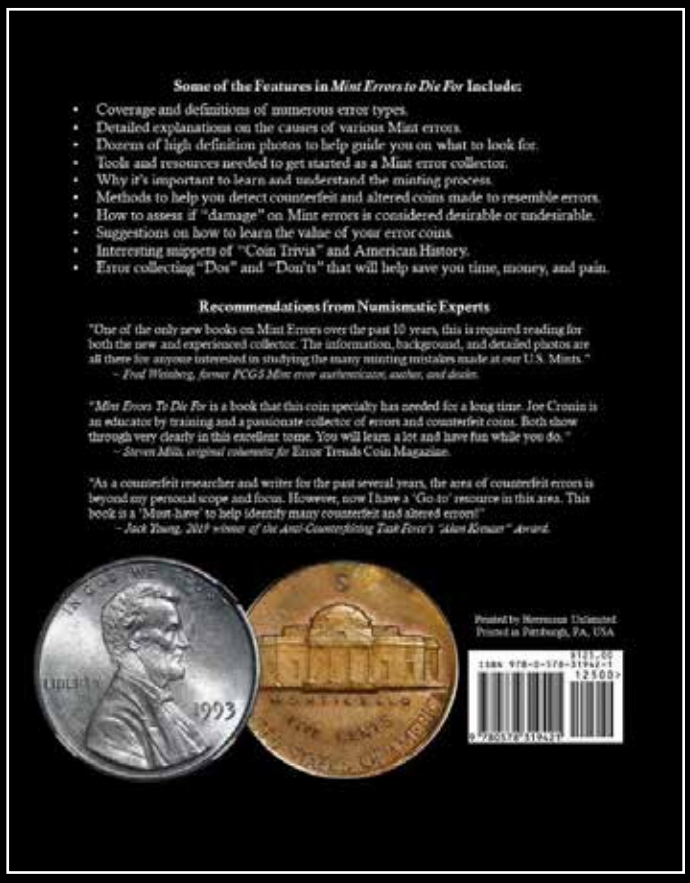
Triple-struck 2001-P 25¢ w/ Off-center 2nd and 3rd Strikes

An Exciting New Mint Error Book:

Mint Errors to Die For

A Sampling and Explanation of More Than
250 Error Coins That Escaped the U.S. Mint


Mint Errors to Die For
3rd Edition
A Sampling and Explanation of More Than
275 Error Coins That Escaped the U.S. Mint
Includes a Wealth of Information on Altered/Counterfeit Error Detection
Joseph P. Cronin


Some of the Features in Mint Errors to Die For Include:
• Coverage and definitions of numerous error types.
• Detailed explanations on the causes of various Mint errors.
• Dozens of high definition photos to help guide you on what to look for.
• Tools and resources needed to get started as a Mint error collector.
• Why it's important to learn and understand the minting process.
• Methods to help you detect counterfeit and altered coins made to resemble errors.
• How to assess if "damage" on Mint errors is considered desirable or undesirable.
• Suggestions on how to learn the value of your error coins.
• Interesting snippets of "Coin Trivia" and American History.
• Error collecting "Dos" and "Don'ts" that will help save you time, money, and pain.
Recommendations from Numismatic Experts
"One of the only new books on Mint Errors over the past 10 years, this is required reading for both the new and experienced collector. The information, background, and detailed photos are all there for anyone interested in studying the many minting mistakes made at our U.S. Mints."
~ Fred Weinberg, former PCGS Mint error authenticator, author, and dealer.
"Mint Errors To Die For is a book that this coin specialty has needed for a long time. Joe Cronin is an educator by training and a passionate collector of errors and counterfeit coins. Both show through very clearly in this excellent tome. You will learn a lot and have fun while you do."
~ Steven Mills, original columnist for Error Trends Coin Magazine.
"As a counterfeit researcher and writer for the past several years, the area of counterfeit errors is beyond my personal scope and focus. However, now I have a 'Go-to' resource in this area. This book is a 'Must-have' to help identify many counterfeit and altered errors!"
~ Jack Young, 2019 winner of the Anti-Counterfeiting Task Force's "Adam Kramer" Award.
1993
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Some of the Features in *Mint Errors to Die For* Include:

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Mint Errors to Die For

A Sampling and Explanation of More Than 250 Error Coins That Escaped the U.S. Mint

Non-gold Coins Struck on Gold Planchets

1913 photos PCGS® used by permission at PCGS.com/CoinFacts; NGC label photo courtesy of MikeByers.com

Coin Trivia: Though the 1913 Buffalo nickel is on a $5 gold Half Eagle planchet, Mint errors on $2.5 gold planchets include: Indian Head Cents: (3) 1900, 1905, 1906, and 1907. Lincoln Cents: 1911, 1915, and 1927

1913 (Type 2) Buffalo Nickel: Struck on a $5 Gold Half Eagle Planchet

Though there are nine known cents (six Indian Heads and three Lincolns) struck on gold Quarter Eagle ($2.5) planchets, this is the only known Buffalo nickel struck on a gold planchet of any type; in this case, it's likely a $5 gold Half Eagle planchet. (Some speculate it was made intentionally as were the five known 1913 Liberty nickels). Sadly someone cut into the rim on the reverse at 8 o'clock (see photo below) likely to prove it's just another plated novelty coin. Now even if you're 99.9% sure your suspect coin is a fake, don't ever, ever do that! As a result, PCGS gave it a "Genuine/AU Details" grade. It's no surprise that the psychological impact of PCGS' grade adversely affected its initial selling price: $78,000 at Heritage Auctions in January of 2021 – a heck of a lot less than what many experts expected despite the damage.

In an interesting twist, Las Vegas rare coin dealer Mike Byers reacquired the coin and advocated it shouldn't have been given a "Genuine" label as there are a few other high-profile straight-graded coins/patterns with post-Mint alterations. NGC agreed and straight-graded it at AU-53; he later sold the coin privately for $400,000! *(Source: MikeByers.com/6324417-001.html)*

What the Planchet Was Intended to Become

Below is a 1913 Indian Head $5 gold Half Eagle, which is likely what the planchet for the featured 1913 Buffalo nickel was supposed to become. Seeing that U.S. Mint control of gold and silver planchets was so tight even back then, it is unknown if this is a true error or a Mint-assisted coin. *(Photos courtesy of PCGS ® Used by permission at PCGS.com/CoinFacts)*

Contact Joe Cronin for your copy!

josephcronin@protonmail.com

Unique Proof Ike Dollar "Clover Leaf" on Nickel and Cent Planchets

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

Here is an amazing Proof Ike Dollar clover leaf mated set. Two cent planchets combined with a nickel planchet do not fit in the collar set up to strike Eisenhower Dollars. Therefore, these three planchets overlapped each other within the collar. Each one has an indent and mates together with the other two. This clover leaf is unique since it combines planchets of different denominations and compositions.

The first known proof Ike Dollar "Clover Leaf" struck on three dime planchets sold in a Heritage Auction for $105,000.

Unique Proof Ike Dollar "Clover Leaf" on Nickel and Cent Planchets

Unique Proof Ike Dollar "Clover Leaf" on Nickel and Cent Planchets

Unique Proof Ike Dollar "Clover Leaf" on Nickel and Cent Planchets

Unique Proof Ike Dollar "Clover Leaf" on Nickel and Cent Planchets

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1943 Cent
Struck on a Bronze Planchet
AU58 PCGS. CAC
Realized $252,000

1982-D Small Date Cent
Struck in Bronze
AU58 NGC
Realized $10,800

Undated Two Cent Piece
Full Brockage Obverse
MS62 Brown PCGS
Realized $9,600

1943-S Nickel
Struck on a Zinc-Coated Steel Planchet
AU58 NGC
Realized $2,880

1965 Dime
Struck on a Silver Dime Planchet
MS62 PCGS
Realized $9,000

1971-D Quarter,
Brockage Reverse
Struck on Nickel Planchet
MS65 PCGS
Realized $4,320

2000-D Maryland Quarter
Struck on Feeder Finger
Ungraded NGC
Realized $15,600

1999- SBA Dollar
Struck on a Sacagawea Planchet
MS64 PCGS
Realized $15,600

2000-P Sacagawea Dollar /
Statehood Quarter Mule
MS67 NGC
Realized $102,000

For a free appraisal, or to consign to an upcoming auction, contact a Heritage Consignment Director today. 800-835-6000

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An Incredible 1972-S Proof Ike Dollar Mated Pair

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

This is an amazing off-metal mated pair of U.S. proof coinage that combines *two different off-metals*. This mated pair is the second known certified pair and is visually breathtaking. The original discovery was featured on the cover of Mint Error News Magazine and in CoinWeek. A clad dime planchet and a copper cent planchet were intentionally placed in the collar at the same time and were struck by both the obverse and reverse Ike Dollar proof dies. The placement of Eisenhower's head on the obverse and the eagle on the reverse is perfectly positioned.

Proof coins are struck by technicians who hand feed the blanks into special presses. They are produced, examined and packaged using extreme quality control.

An Incredible 1972-S Proof Ike Dollar Mated Pair

It is very unusual to find major proof errors. A few broadstrikes, off-centers, double strikes (in collar) and off-metals have been known to be found in sealed proof sets. Proof errors are aggressively sought after by many error collectors.

This mated pair was recently authenticated and certified by NGC and is from a 40 year old U.S. proof mint error collection. This mated pair belongs in an Eisenhower Dollar collection or a collection of major mint errors.

An Incredible 1972-S Proof Ike Dollar Mated Pair

An Incredible 1972-S Proof Ike Dollar Mated Pair

An Incredible 1972-S Proof Ike Dollar Mated Pair

An Incredible 1972-S Proof Ike Dollar Mated Pair

The original discovery set was featured on the cover of Mint Error News Magazine and was in CoinWeek.

UNIQUE PENNY/DIME MATED PAIR
1972 S $1 On 1c Planchet PF 67 RD CAMEO
(1972) S 10C On 10c Planchet PF 67
1972 S SILVER $1 PF 67 ULTRA CAMEO
NUMISMATIC GUARANTY CORPORATION
NGC
LIBERTY
IN GOD WE TRUST
1972

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MAGAZINE
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Also featuring Die Trials, Test Pieces, Numismatic Rarities,
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Special Edition: MATED PAIRS
NGC Certifies Amazing & Unique
Proof Ike Dollar Mated Pair
With Two Different Off-Metals
1972
Special Edition • 2020
A Mike Byers Publication

PCGS CoinFacts

Your Online Reference for U.S. Coins

PCGS CoinFacts includes comprehensive information on nearly 30,000 U.S. coins. It offers everything from basic, startup information for new collectors, to a wealth of detailed information the seasoned collector, buyer or seller can't afford to be without.

From the PCGS CoinFacts Home Page, you can access all denominations and major types of U.S. coins. The link will take you to a Series Page, which offers images of the finest PCGS-graded coin in the series, and a nice explanation including the history and why the coins in the series are important.

The real "business end" of PCGS CoinFacts begins with the individual coin pages, which are loaded with photos and information. To view the essential features of PCGS CoinFacts, you can click on them one at a time, or go straight to a particular feature of interest.

Double Denomination Montana Quarter Struck On A Nickel

by Christopher Talbot Frank, CTF Error Coins

This 2007-D Montana statehood quarter struck on a struck 2007-D nickel is the only known Montana double denomination error. It is one of the only three known statehood quarters struck on a struck nickel. There were more than 34 billion statehood quarters produced in the 50 State Quarter Program making this error extremely rare.

The reverse of the struck nickel can be seen across the bison skull on the Montana quarter. The nickel's date of 2007 D can be lightly seen on the obverse of the Montana quarter making this even more collectable as a double dated double denomination 30 cent piece.

Find us on Instagram at
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or via our website at
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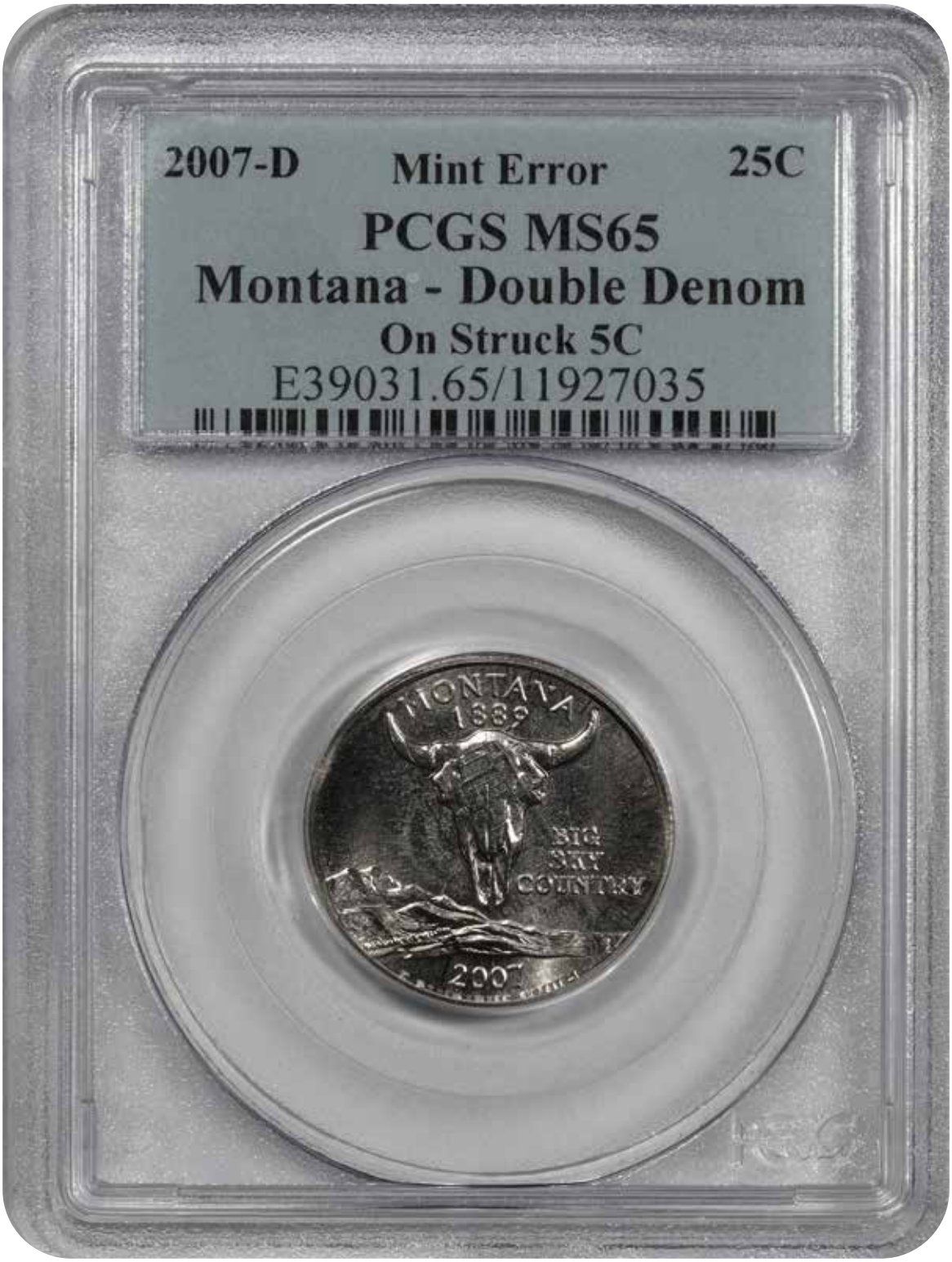
2007-D PCGS MS65 Montana Quarter Struck On A Nickel Double Denomination



Double Denomination Montana Quarter Struck On A Nickel

Double Denomination Montana Quarter Struck On A Nickel

Double Denomination Montana Quarter Struck On A Nickel

CTF Error Coins

Christopher Talbot Frank

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Extremely Rare Transitional Off-Metal 1980-D Silver Cent

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

Extremely Rare Transitional Off-Metal 1980-D Silver Cent

This 1980-D Lincoln Cent was struck on a U.S. 90% silver Dime planchet weighing 2.5 grams. 1964 dated Dimes were 90% silver, 1965 dated Dimes were clad.

A transitional error occurs when a coin is struck on a planchet from a year with different metal composition. The most famous transitional is a 1943 copper cent struck on a 1942 copper blank. 1943 cents were struck in steel because of the copper shortage during World War II.

In this case, this transitional off-metal was struck in 1980 at the Denver Mint, on a *silver Dime planchet* from 1965. It was likely an intentional mint error since it is extremely unlikely that a silver Dime planchet accidentally was struck 15 years later, when clad Dime planchets were in production.

Incredibly, there are 3 known 1980-D Dimes struck on 90% silver Dime planchets that weigh exactly 2.5 grams, which is the exact weight of the 1965 silver Dime planchet. A MS 65 example was placed with a collector and there are 2 MS 64 examples, one of which is the one offered here.

These transitional off-metal 1980-D *Silver Cents* are rarer than the 1965 Silver Cent transitional off-metals. Three 1965 Silver Cent transitional off-metals have sold in Heritage auctions for $9,200.00 (Jan 7, 2006, lot #6227), $9,987.50 (Jan 14, 2023, lot #5114), and $9,200 (Sep 26, 2010, lot #4936). This is a rare opportunity to acquire a U.S. *Silver Cent* struck 15 years after the coinage transitioned to clad.

Extremely Rare Transitional Off-Metal 1980-D Silver Cent

Extremely Rare Transitional Off-Metal 1980-D Silver Cent

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The Only Known Foreign Coin Struck on a U.S. Wartime Nickel Planchet

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

This is a discovery coin and is unique. It is a Bolivia 1942 50 Centavos struck at the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia on a U.S. Wartime Nickel planchet!

The Only Known Foreign Coin Struck on a U.S. Wartime Nickel Planchet

In 2009, Mint Error News reported this discovery in an article written by Timothy D. Ziebarth, Ph.D., who discovered this unique off-metal. The article describes the fascinating path that he had to take in order to get it properly attributed by NGC.

Originally it was misattributed by Heritage Auctions as part of a 3-coin lot of raw Bolivian coins in their 2007 sale of the Whittier Collection. When it was first submitted to NGC, it was also misattributed, this time as struck on a Bolivia 20 Centavos planchet.

Dr. Ziebarth then spent the next year researching this mint error. He analyzed the Mint Error News article Foreigner's In The Mint which included a 69 page report on foreign coins struck by the U.S. Mint. He attended multiple coin shows, asking dealers for their opinions. David Lange, the research director for NGC, assisted him with information. Ken Krah, the Vice President of NGC (at the time) accepted the submission from Dr. Ziebarth and proceeded to conduct a non-destructive Semi-Quantitative X-Ray analysis to determine the composition.

The lab results concluded that this unique mint error was indeed struck on a U.S. Wartime Nickel Planchet and NGC subsequently revised their description.

Lab Analysis:

Copper: 57.5%
Silver: 36.3%
Rhodium: 5.7%
Iron: 0.4%

The Only Known Foreign Coin Struck on a U.S. Wartime Nickel Planchet

This is one of the most interesting numismatic stories about how a unique mint error, that was previously unknown and misattributed twice, is now recognized as being Struck on a U.S. Wartime Nickel Planchet. It is unique and a fascinating part of numismatics.

The Only Known Foreign Coin Struck on a U.S. Wartime Nickel Planchet

Wartime Mint Errors from 1942-1945 are among the most coveted and sought after by mint error collectors. Obviously the most famous are the 1943 copper Lincoln Cents that sell for $300,000 and the 1944 steel Lincoln Cents that sell for $50,000 to $100,000. Even a 1943 Lincoln cent struck on a Curacao 25 Centstukken planchet sold in a Heritage auction for $31,200. There are only a handful of world coins struck on U.S. planchets known during this wartime period. This Bolivia 50 Centavos struck on a U.S. Wartime Nickel Planchet is not only unique on its own, but also considered to be the only known foreign coin struck on a U.S. Wartime Nickel Planchet.

The Only Known Foreign Coin Struck on a U.S. Wartime Nickel Planchet

Here is the original article by Dr. Ziebarth that appeared in Mint Error News Issue 27:

Story of the Bolivia 1942 50 Centavos Struck at the Philadelphia Mint on US Wartime Nickel Planchet

by Timothy D. Ziebarth, Ph.D.
ANA# 3130037

I am an advanced collector of Foreign Coins Minted at United States Mints. Of the approximately 950 issues (not counting varieties) for 41 countries that have been minted by US Mints in Philadelphia, San Francisco, Denver, New Orleans and West Point since 1875 as authorized by the Act of Congress January 29, 1874, I have managed to add to my collection all but 31, 11 of which are modern (post 1964) and 7 of which may not exist, leaving 13 yet to find. Most examples in the collection are high-grade, including several of the finest known.

In 2006, Heritage offered a number of fine and rare examples of these coins in their June 2 Whittier Collection of Latin American Coinage, Auction #410. Included in that auction was Lot# 16308 of 3 raw coins, whose description read:

> "**Republic 50 Centavos 1942 - Three Varieties,** KM182a.1, original strike in bronze, nice BU and original strike in silver, choice BU and the only reported example, and KM182a.2, restrike with less distinct strike, nice BU.

Having both bronze issues, the KM182a.1 "original" (meaning Philadelphia) and the KM182a.2 LaPaz minted restrike, in my collection was appealing especially because they appeared to be very high grade. The "original strike in silver, choice BU and the only reported example" was intriguing: Krause lists only one Pattern as "Pn57 1942 — 50 Centavos. Silver. Struck at La-Paz. KM#182a.1", and I assumed this was perhaps that coin.

I won the Lot, and instructed Heritage to have these coins sent directly to NGC for certification, as many of the already certified coins in the auction were encapsulated with the "Whittier Collection" attribution on the slab label, and I wanted the same labeling on these coins.

When I received the coins from NGC, I was surprised to find that both bronze examples were in fact Philadelphia minted; both had plain edges. (The LaPaz restrike has a reeded edge.) I was even more surprised to see the "silver" example labeled "1942 4.9G Bolivia 50C Struck ON 20C PLANCHET MINT ERROR MS65".
While I was delighted with the grade of MS65, I was somewhat disappointed that this coin was apparently a Copper-Nickel planchet error, and not the anticipated silver Pattern coin KM-Pn57.

The Only Known Foreign Coin Struck on a U.S. Wartime Nickel Planchet

Over the course of the next year, I looked at the coin a number of times and was continually struck by the color; it appeared much more brilliant and "silvery" than any C/N alloy coin I had ever seen. Referring to Greg Mirsky's wonderful work on mint errors caused by having both Foreign and Domestic coins being made in the same US Mint at approximately the same time (see Mint Error News Magazine, Vol I, Issue II, page 16), and Krause World Coins 2006 Edition, it was apparent that something about NGC's attribution of this coin was amiss. There was no "20C" (I assumed NGC meant "cent", "cenavo", "centesimo" or perhaps "centime") or any other denomination produced for any Foreign Country within several years of 1942 that had a 4.9 gram C/N planchet.

I took the coin (now NGC slabbed) to the CSNS Show in St. Louis in May, 2007 and showed it to a number of error dealers, including Fred Weinberg. I asked each one two questions: 1. had they ever seen a coin like this one, and 2. did the coin appear to be Copper-Nickel alloy, or Silver. The responses to 1. were unanimously "NO", and to the second question I received about a 50:50 split between C/N and Silver.

At the same show, I presented the coin to Mr. David Lange, Research Director, who was representing NGC at their booth. He agreed something may be amiss; the coin appeared clearly to be struck on an undersized planchet, and that the planchet did not appear to be Copper-Nickel. Mr. Lange suggested I contact NGC directly and have them re-look at the coin.

On the flight back to Denver, I was still mulling over the problem when that proverbial "light bulb" went on. I had looked extensively at what other Foreign planchets may have been floating around the Philadelphia mint in 1942 (and for years before that, as an old planchet may have been lost in the machinery for years), but I had NOT looked at what US coins may have been on-site at the time. A quick look at the Redbook told me all I needed to know: of course we were minting 5 cent coins containing the "War" alloy of 56% copper, 35% Silver and 9% Manganese. Precisely a 5 gram planchet with a "not C/N and not Silver" appearance! The Bolivia 1942 50 centavo coin was specified to be minted with a 5.5 gram, 24.3 mm diameter planchet whereas the US War nickel used a 5.0 gram planchet with a 21.1 mm diameter.

Working directly with Ken Krah,

The Only Known Foreign Coin Struck on a U.S. Wartime Nickel Planchet

Vice-President of NGC, via Email, I was invited to send him the coin directly. I described the issue to him, and my suspicion that in fact the con was struck on a War Nickel planchet, and requested that NGC perform non-destructive analysis of the coin to perhaps solve the mystery. This they promptly did, with the Semi-Quantitative X-Ray analysis by Ledoux & Company of Teaneck, NJ coming back as:

Copper:	57.5%
Silver:	36.3%
Rhodium:	5.7%
Iron:	0.4%

Although the reported content of Rhodium and Iron might be disconcerting, being a Chemist and having managed an independent testing laboratory myself in the 1970's, I knew that this type of analysis was a) truly semi-quantitative (a few % error was not unusual without a known equivalent alloy as a reference), and b) mis-assignment of minor elements is common due to overlapping emissions from major elements. The key results were, or course, that the alloy was principally Copper and Silver, and not Copper and Nickel, in the proper proportions for the US Wartime 5 cent issues. To put a final "nail in the coffin", I may elect to ask Ledoux to re-inspect their X-Ray results to see if in fact the Rhodium/Iron identification could have been misconstrued from and actual Manganese component, or I may send them an actual US War Nickel to see if the same mis-assignment for these two minor compositional elements is made.

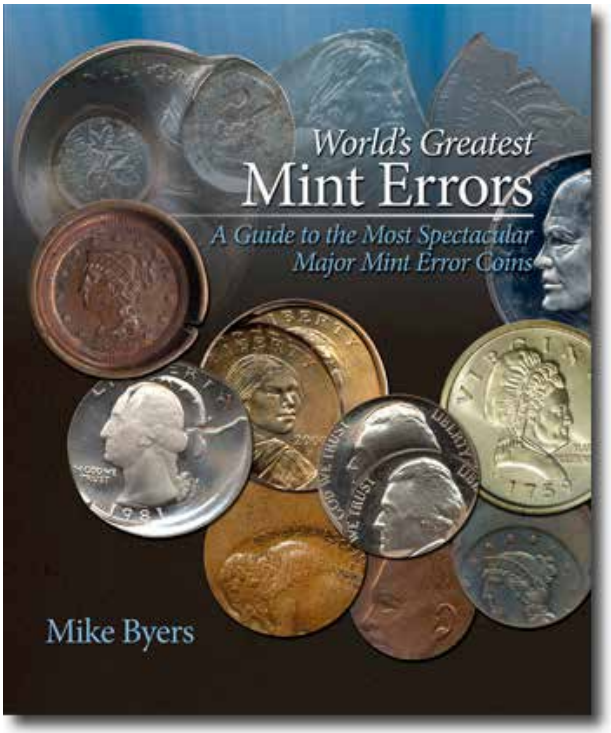
Nonetheless, NGC agreed with this overall conclusion, and re-encapsulated the coin with its proud new attribution as:

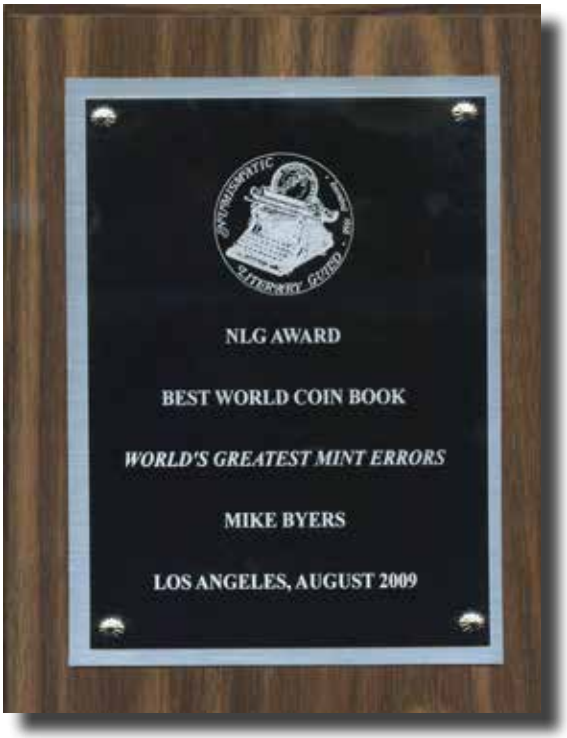
1942 BOLIVIA 50C
ON US 5C BLANK 4.9G
MINT ERROR MS 65
WHITTIER COLLECTION

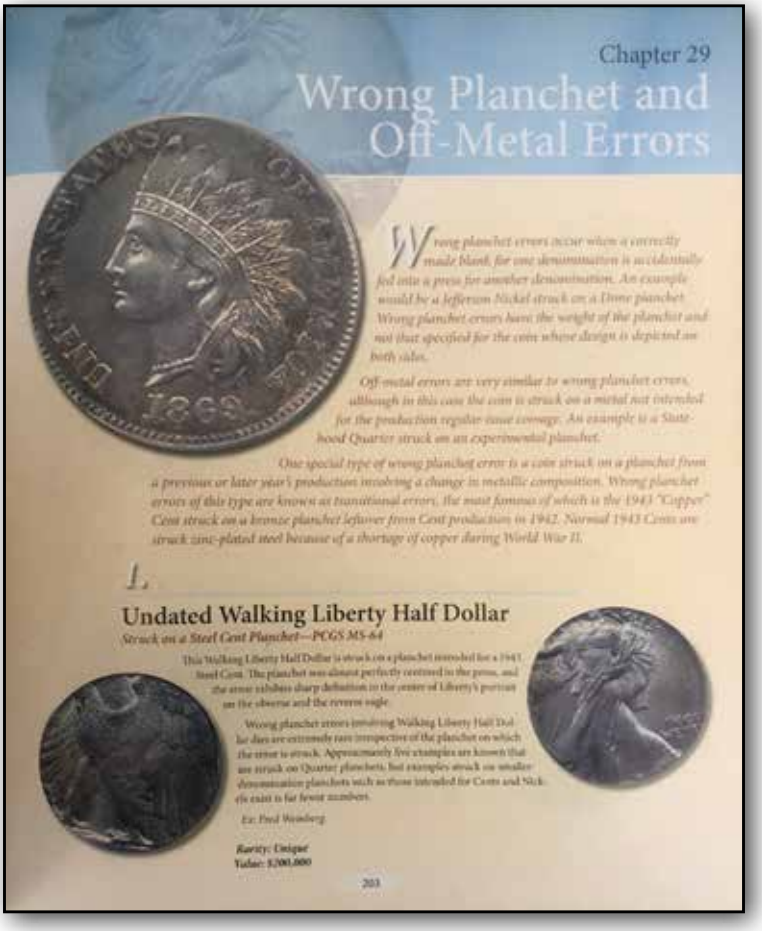
It stands as the only, and therefore finest known example, of error. This unique coin now hold a prominent place in my collection. I learned that tracking down a proper attribution for an error coin can be stimulating, fun and rewarding, that it takes dogged perseverance, but that sometimes even the experts need help from private collectors. It's truly a grand experience, pleasure and privilege when even an avid collector can actually act and feel like a numismatist. Error collecting presents this opportunity at almost every turn!

The Only Known Foreign Coin Struck on a U.S. Wartime Nickel Planchet

Off-Metal Errors are featured in my NLG Award winning book, *World's Greatest Mint Errors*.






Chapter 29

Wrong Planchet and Off-Metal Errors

Wrong planchet errors occur when a correctly made blank, for one denomination is accidentally fed into a press for another denomination. An example would be a Jefferson Nickel struck on a Dime planchet. Wrong planchet errors have the weight of the planchet and not that specified for the coin whose design is depicted on both sides.

Off-metal errors are very similar to wrong planchet errors, although in this case the coin is struck on a metal not intended for the production regular issue coinage. An example is a Statehood Quarter struck on an experimental planchet.

One special type of wrong planchet error is a coin struck on a planchet from a previous or later year's production involving a change in metallic composition. Wrong planchet errors of this type are known as transitional errors, the most famous of which is the 1943 "Copper" Cent struck on a bronze planchet leftover from Cent production in 1942. Normal 1943 Cents are struck zinc-plated steel because of a shortage of copper during World War II.

1.

Undated Walking Liberty Half Dollar

Struck on a Steel Cent Planchet—PCGS MS-64

This Walking Liberty Half Dollar is struck on a planchet intended for a 1943 Steel Cent. The planchet was almost perfectly centered in the press, and the error exhibits sharp definition in the center of Liberty's portrait on the obverse and the reverse eagle.

Wrong planchet errors involving Walking Liberty Half Dollar dies are extremely rare irrespective of the planchet on which the error is struck. Approximately five examples are known that are struck on Quarter planchets, but examples struck on smaller denomination planchets such as those intended for Cents and Nickels exist in far fewer numbers.

Ex: Fred Weinberg

Rarity: Unique
Value: $200,000

203

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Double Dated Error Coins

by Christopher Talbot Frank, CTF Error Coins

Double dated error coins have long been a favorite of error coin collectors. These are error coins that are created by mistake at the mint with two visible dates on one coin. Most common are double struck double dated coins. The second date can be struck off center or on center in the case of a rotated double struck coin.

Another very interesting way to get a second date on a major error coin is when two coins are struck together leaving a brockage date pressed into another coin. One of the rarer ways to get two dates on one coin is when one denomination is struck on another previously struck coin of a different denomination. When it comes to error coin collecting, the astute numismatist will certainly want a double dated error coin in their collection.

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or via our website at
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PCGS MS66 Off Center Double Struck Double Dated Sacagawea Dollar Mint Error

This may very well be the finest example of a double struck Sacagawea error coin. The second strike is 40% off center with two dates and two profiles of Sacagawea. Perfect eye appeal with very clean surfaces.

PCGS MS66 Off Center Double Struck
Double Dated Sacagawea Dollar Mint Error

1964 PCGS MS65 Double Struck 2nd 50% Off Center Two Dates Silver Dime Mint Error

This is a really cool example of a 1964 double struck silver dime. The second strike is 50% off center and uniface as it was struck with another coin, and actually splits the planchet.

1964 PCGS MS65 Double Struck 2nd 50% Off Center Two Dates Silver Dime Mint Error

1965 PCGS MS64 Double Struck Off Center Broadstruck Cent Mint Error Two Dates

This very nice 1965 double struck error coin not only has two dates but also two profiles of Lincoln. The second strike is 60% off center and is also broadstruck making this a multiple error coin.

1965 PCGS MS64 Double Struck Off Center Broadstruck Cent Mint Error Two Dates

1962 NGC MS64RB Double Date Double Struck Lincoln Cent Mint Error Two Dates

This very interesting 1962 double struck double dated error coin has fantastic eye appeal. The second strike is 80% off center and basically just shows the date. The second date is struck at a 90 degree angle adding to the great visual look of the 62 year old error coin.

1962 NGC MS64RB Double Date Double Struck Lincoln Cent Mint Error Two Dates

1962 D PCGS Double Struck Rotated In Collar Lincoln Cent Mint Error Two Dates

This is one of the strongest double dated rotated double struck error coins that I have seen. The underlying date and mintmark is extremely strong on this example.

1962 D PCGS Double Struck Rotated In Collar
Lincoln Cent Mint Error Two Dates

1960 NGC MS64 Off Center Double Struck With Reverse Brockage Nickel Mint Error

This off center double struck double dated error nickel gets it's second date from a brockage and not the second strike. The second date was pressed into the coin when two coins were struck together to from a brockage on the larger of the two strikes.

1960 NGC MS64 Off Center Double Struck With Reverse Brockage Nickel Mint Error

1998 ANACS MS64 Mushroom Double Struck Indent Double Date Dime Mint Error

This multiple error coin has a lot goin on. First it has a slight rotated double strike. The second strike has an indent and a large broadstruck over the first strike. The error coin also has the very desirable mushroom shape.

1998 ANACS MS64 Mushroom Double Struck Indent Double Date Dime Mint Error

1999 PCGS MS64 Double Struck Off Center New Jersey Quarter Mint Error Two Dates

This double struck double dated New Jersey Statehood quarter has a great look to it. The second strike is 25% off center. The dates are perfectly stacked for a very eye appealing error coin.

1999 PCGS MS64 Double Struck Off Center New Jersey Quarter Mint Error Two Dates

1935 PCGS MS64 1st Strike Brockage San Diego California Pacific International Exposition Aluminum Medal Mint Error

This double dated 1935 San Diego medal has an extremely sharp first strike brockage. PCGS labels this as a TC-182604 Aluminum Medal. This very cool medal came out of the personal collection of Fred Weinberg.

1935 PCGS MS64 1st Strike Brockage San Diego California Pacific International Exposition Aluminum Medal Mint Error

Double Dated Error Coins

1966 NGC MS65 Cent Struck On Struck Dime Mint Error
Double Denomination 2 Dates

This double dated error coin has the dates of two different denominations. A 1966 struck dime got mixed in with a batch of cent planchets and was then struck as a 1966 Cent. You can see the underlying design of the dime and especially the date adding to the coolness of this eleven cent piece.

1966 NGC MS65 Cent Struck On Struck Dime Mint Error Double Denomination 2 Dates

ANACS is the Collector's Choice because we know what counts: knowledge, integrity, and service. How much we value coin collecting is evident in our work.

The ANACS team enthusiastically works to advance coin collecting by offering unequaled expertise and developing new services.

This makes ANACS the choice of hobbyists, professional numismatists, and dealers. We are the coin grading service to contact when you want to know all the details about your coin's authenticity and grading.

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America's Oldest Grading Service™
Established 1972

One of Only Two Known Great Britain Florin Mules

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

There are two known 1967 Great Britain Florin mules (struck with two reverse dies). I have handled both of them. NGC authenticated and certified both, a MS 64 and the MS 61 featured in this article.

One of Only Two Known Great Britain Florin Mules

When I discovered the first known and certified "two tailed" or "two headed" coin, it caused a sensation within the numismatic community. It was a 1980 Canadian Cent struck with two reverse dies, and was authenticated and certified by PCGS.

Coin World featured my discovery on the front page in 2001. Fast

One of Only Two Known Great Britain Florin Mules

forward to today, there are likely over 50 different "two headed" or "two tailed" coins from all over the world which are now certified by NGC and PCGS.

It is amazing that after five decades, there are only two known Great Britain 1967 "two tailed" Florins. Obviously pieces de caprice!

One of Only Two Known Great Britain Florin Mules

This is the other 1967 Great Britain Florin mule that I handled:

One of Only Two Known Great Britain Florin Mules

Mike Byers' discovery was featured in Coin World:

Copyright story reprinted by permission from Page 1 and Page 8 of the October 1, 2001 issue of COIN WORLD, Sidney, OH (coinworld.com)

Coin World
www.coinworld.com
$2.00
October 1, 2001
"Enriching coin collecting through knowledge"

Photos courtesy of Michael S. Byers.

TWO CANADIAN cents with two reverses have been examined and authenticated by PCGS. The side designated as "A" (shown as the left image) on the coin shown was struck from a misaligned die. The same piece was struck from rotated dies (not represented by positioning).

Two cents, four reverses, zero obverses

PCGS authenticates 1980 Canadian cents with double reverses

By Paul Gilkes
COIN WORLD Staff

Two double-reverse bronze 1980 Canadian cents, one of them struck from a rotated die, have been authenticated, certified and graded Mint State 64 red by Professional Coin Grading Service.

California dealer Michael S. Byers acquired the two coins along with several off-metal and other major error Canadian coins earlier this year from a Canadian coin dealer who handled a major Canadian collection of errors.

The two coins are the latest discoveries in a series of once unprecedented errors. Previous finds of mismatched dies include a 25-cent coin mule bearing a commemorative obverse and noncommemorative reverse with different dates, another 25-cent mule bearing a medal design mismatched with a coin design, and two different 25-cent mules featuring commemorative reverses used with noncommemorative obverses, neither carrying any indication of denomination.

The two double-reverse cents were struck with the same pair of reverse dies, according to PCGS President Rick Montgomery.

For reference purposes, the front of the holder shows side "A" and the back of the holder shows side "B."

According to Montgomery, side A on both coins appear to have been struck with a fresh die because of the sharp, detailed strike and high, wire rim, while Side B is rougher in appearance, having been struck with a worn die.

One of the specimens is with normal die rotation, while the other piece has the two sides nearly 100 degrees out of rotation from each other. The second piece also has Side A having been misaligned when struck.

Unlike United States coins, which are struck in what is referred to as "coin turn," Canadian coins and most world coins are struck in "medal turn." The top of the obverse of a U.S. coin is aligned with the bottom of the reverse. With "medal turn" coins,

See **REVERSES** Page 8

Private Mint News

Private mints and their issues have a long and illustrious history, but it is often hard to assemble, often years later without good documentation. When working with sovereign mints like the United States Mint, there is often a lot of archives and records available to research which is not available for private mints.

To address this, Private Mint News is a new online publication focusing on numismatics from by private mints. Private mint issues or creations, often in the form of tokens and medals called exonumia, is a rich and evolving area, however, research information car be thin on both classic and recent issues, especially the latter. The goal of Private Mint News is to assist in rectifying this situation by documenting and discussing issues from Private Mints of all eras.

Coverage includes private mints issuers of all eras and locations with an initial focus on the United States. Modern issuer coverage will include Daniel Carr of Moonlight Mint, Ron Lands of Gallery Mint Museum, Jared Grove of Grove Minting, Provident Metals, and other issuers. Classic issuers will include issuers of tokens, medals and coins including Civil War Tokens, So-Called Dollars, Territorial and Pioneer coins as well as Private Patterns.

privatemintnews.com

Major Errors Struck by Private U.S. Mints – Part One –

by Jeff Ylitalo

Private U.S. Mints and in-house metal refineries have numbered in the dozens over the years. Major mint errors from silver rounds to gambling tokens are very popular and are eagerly sought out by collectors. Erratic record keeping of mintage numbers and identifying which private mint produced major errors can be a challenge to research.

The first error is a dramatic Indian/Buffalo 1 Oz silver round struck by RM (Republic Metals Corporation). It is a large die cap that was double struck and indented on the reverse face. A large strip of retained detached reeding was sheared off after subsequent strikes and was eventually gathered and struck into the obverse face multiple times.

Republic Metals is no longer operational. They were reputed for high quality product and low premiums due to their in-house refinery. Its former location was in Miami, Florida and is no longer operational.

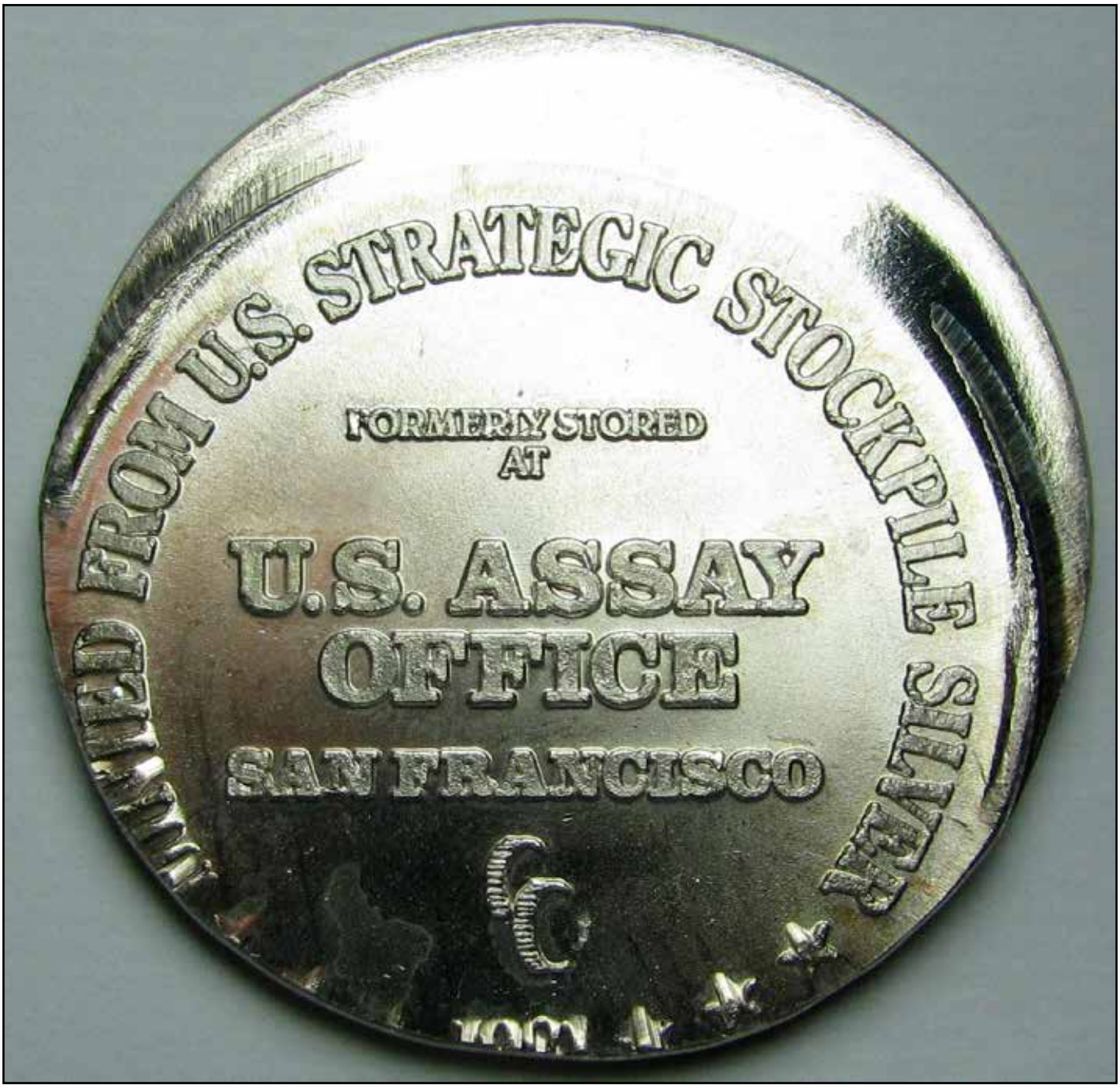
Next, is a rare 2 Oz silver round which is struck off-center. This "Snowy Christmas Holiday" silver round was struck by the WMC (World Mint Corporation). WMC was located out of Phoenix, Arizona during the early/mid 1970's.

They produced a variety of high-quality silver bars and coins and are no longer operational. Major errors on any 2 Oz silver rounds are seldom encountered.

The numerals and words "2 TROY OUNCES 999 SILVER" are absent because of the off-center error.

Next, a super nice 1981 off-center 1 Oz silver round. It was struck from the former U.S. Strategic Stock Pile located at the U.S. Assay Office in San Francisco, California. CC (Continental Coin and Jewelry Company) struck both silver rounds and silver bars in 1981 after making multiple purchases of silver from the U.S. Assay Office in the late 70's and early 80's. Still operational, CC is located in Van Nuys, California.

Interestingly, this silver has direct ties to the Manhattan Project going back to 1942 and the coming of the atomic age during WWII. Copper was preferred to split isotopes however; it was in severe shortage to support the war effort. A team of scientists instead found a way to split isotopes using silver. Many 1,000-pound silver bars were approved for release from the West Point Depository to accomplish the mission.



Next, a large and heavy (35.4 grams) $5 brass Rainbow Casino gambling token struck off-center. Major errors of this size and denomination are rarely encountered.

This gambling token was minted by NCM (Nevada Coin Mart) which was started in the late 1960's and is still operational. NCM is located in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Lastly, we have a 1 Oz Prospector & Conestoga Wagon silver round. It is a dramatic triple strike with strong underlying design elements from the first and second strike.

This is a popular silver round with any major errors being quickly snapped up by collectors. I haven't been successful in finding the private mint that struck these silver rounds. If anyone has information, please do share.

CONECA

The Combined Organization
of Numismatic Error Collectors of America

CONECA is an international numismatic organization devoted to the education of error and variety coin collectors. CONECA focuses on many error and variety specialties, including doubled dies, repunched mintmarks, multiple errors, clips, double strikes, off-metals and off-centers -- just to name a few. It publishes an educational journal, The ErrorScope, which is printed and mailed to members bimonthly. CONECA offers a lending library, examination, listing and attribution services; it holds annual meetings at major conventions (referred to as Errorama) around the country. Please visit conecaonline.org and enjoy!

CONECA Variety Attribution Services	CONECA Error Examination Services
CONECA offers attribution services. The service enables members and non-members to send their coins directly to an authorized CONECA attributer.	CONECA offers examination services. The service enables members and non-members to send coins to an authorized CONECA examiner who will return an opinion of each coin's error classification.

conecaonline.org

Pair of Judd #2210 Martha Washington 5¢ Test Pieces

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

(2011-2013) U.S. 5¢ Test Strike Pair
Including 1 of Only 2 Known Proof Test Strikes
Judd #2210 - Mint Cancelled
New Martha Washington Die Design
Struck at the U.S. Mint in Philadelphia
77% Cu, 20% Ni, 3% Mg - NGC (Mint State)
60.5% Ni, 32.5% Cu, 6.8% Fe - NGC (Proof)

Pair of Judd #2210 Martha Washington 5¢ Test Pieces

77% Cu, 20% Ni, 3% Mg - Mint State:

60.5% Ni, 32.5% Cu, 6.8% Fe - Proof:

Here is an example of an uncancelled Martha Washington 5¢ test piece:

Photo courtesy of uspatterns.com and the U.S. Mint.
There are no known pieces in private hands.

Pair of Judd #2210 Martha Washington 5¢ Test Pieces

The U.S. Patterns website features these Mint Cancelled (waffled) Martha Washington test pieces. This article includes one of only two known proof test strikes.

uspatterns.com

Waffle Canceled Patterns

A couple of creative pattern collectors are collecting waffle canceled examples of the Martha Washington patterns created by the U.S. Mint. A few examples of the 1965 quarter and half dollar are known. With regard to the circa 2010-2 designs, the only examples known in collectors hands for these patterns are the unique examples illustrated below.

Among those presently known include:

1) 2012 ? 5 cent Martha pattern struck on a copper plated zinc planchet J2221

At least 2 are confirmed as illustrated. There are also others confirmed on a 60.5% Nickel, 32.5% Copper, 6.8% Iron planchet and another on a 77% Copper, 20% Nickel, 3% Manganese planchet that weighs 4.87 grams. These latter 2 may be more recent tests as the alloys noted are not among those listed during the original 2010-2 testing.

2) 1965 Martha quarter pattern struck on a cupro-nickel clad planchet J2116/P2082 and illustrated at the top of this page. Several examples are known. Please click on the thumbnail to see an enlargement.

3) 2011 Martha quarter pattern struck on a cupro-nickel clad planchet J2225 which is illustrated below. At least 2 are known.

4) 1965 Martha Washington half dollar J2132/P2083 with several examples known.

Only time will tell if additional either waffle canceled or non-canceled pieces appear in the marketplace.

Photos courtesy of Heritage, Jon Sullivan and Mike Byers.

Pair of Judd #2210 Martha Washington 5¢ Test Pieces

Newly redesigned Martha Washington dies were used to strike test pieces at the United States Mint in 2011 and 2013. These two 5¢ test pieces with the Martha Washington "nonsense" designs have been assigned Judd #2210 and are listed on the U.S. Patterns website (uspatterns.com).

uspatterns.com

J2210 – 2011 5 Cent Trials

Test pieces were struck in 2011 and 2013 in the following combinations using newer Martha Washingon dies than found on J2182 combined with a reverse similar in style to regular issue nickels. They have mottos with reversed or scrambled lettering, etc.

Additional information on this can be found in the "ALTERNATIVE METALS STUDY" submitted to the U.S. Mint by Concurrent Technologies Corporation.

Tests were also done for cents and quarters as well.

The report has images, usually of one side, for all of these combinations. Click on the thumbnail image to see a couple of these. The alloys used have either a steel or a yellowish color except for the last one.

Examples were struck in the following combinations:

J2210 - Regular 75% copper, 25% nickel

J2211 - Dura-White-Plated Zinc 3i Sn (Jarden Zinc Products)

J2212 - Multi-Ply-Plated Steel (Lot #137) (Royal Canadian Mint)

J2213 - Multi-Ply-Plated Steel (Lot #170) (Royal Canadian Mint)

J2214 - 302 Stainless Steel (Carpenter Technology)

J2215 - 430 Stainless Steel

J2216 - G6 Mod (65Cu-22Zn-10Ni-2Mn) (Olin Brass)

J2217 - 669z (75Cu-10Zn-5Ni-10Mn) (PMX Industries)

J2218 - Nickel Plated 31157 (Jarden Zinc Products)

J2219 - Unplated 31157 (62Cu-31Zn-0.5Ni-6.5Mn) (Jarden Zinc Products)

J2220 - Nickel-Plated Steel (aRMour™ 25 lm Ni on low-carbon steel) (Royal Mint)

J2221 - Copper-Plated Zinc (Jarden Zinc Products) According to a February 10, 2014 article by Paul Gilkes in Coin World, the Mint has also experimented with using current copper-plated zinc planchets similar to that used on the current Lincoln cent as imaged below.

"The experimental copper-plated zinc strikes the Mint has executed at the Philadelphia Mint for the 5-cent coin weigh 4.06 grams and maintain the coin's current diameter, according to U.S. Mint officials.

U.S. Mint spokesman Michael White said Jan. 23 that the copper-plated zinc planchets for the 5-cent experimental strikes were supplied by Jarden Zinc Products of Greeneville, Tenn.

Jarden is currently the U.S. Mint's lone vendor for ready-to-strike copper-plated zinc planchets for Lincoln cents."

It is unclear whether or not, the Mint would confiscate these should any turn up in collector's hands. As of September 2018, the only example seen in private hands is a waffle cancelled example of J2221.

Photos courtesy of the U.S. Mint.

Pair of Judd #2210 Martha Washington 5¢ Test Pieces

These Martha Washington test strikes were produced during the U.S. Mint's 2011 and 2012 testing under the provisions of the Coin Modernization Oversight and Continuity Act of 2010. The Mint contracted Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC) for research and development on metallic materials for circulating coins. CTC completed the study in August 2012 and their August 31, 2012 Alternative Metals Study report details relevant background information and the comprehensive R&D efforts that have been completed since December of 2010:

"The Mint constructed a dedicated R&D laboratory within the Mint at Philadelphia and conducted two series of test strikes and evaluations on 29 different formulations. The evaluations consisted of tests for hardness, ductility, weight, color, surface finish, coinability (ability to be struck into a coin), corrosion and wear resistance, electro-magnetic signature, supply chain availability, and cost."

The U.S. Mint drastically changed their procedures regarding the testing, striking and production of test pieces using the newly redesigned Martha Washington dies. Originally, when the first design of the Martha Washington dies was used to test the SBA Dollars in 1999, the State Quarters in 1999 and the Sacagawea Dollars in 2000, the Martha Washington dies were sent to three manufacturers, IDX Inc., Olin Brass and PMX Industries, who used the dies to strike Martha Washington test pieces. These three companies were experimenting with different compositions of U.S. coins for the SBA Dollar, State Quarter and Sacagawea Dollar.

This change in procedure is obviously the reason why after over a decade of striking the newly redesigned Martha Washington test pieces, only six have surfaced and all of them were Mint cancelled.

This is in stark contrast to the situation in 2000, when I discovered many different Martha Washington test pieces in different denominations and on different compositions. To date, there are estimated to be several dimes, a dozen cents, nickels and halves, a hundred quarters and a couple hundred Sacagawea test pieces.

Pair of Judd #2210 Martha Washington 5¢ Test Pieces

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uspatterns.com

The Society of U.S. Pattern Collectors is dedicated to the study of many of the rarest coins struck at the U.S. Mint: patterns, die trials and experimental pieces.

Welcome to The Society of U.S. Pattern Collectors!

For those of you not familiar with this fascinating area of numismatics, patterns are prototypes for coins that, for the most part, were never approved for circulation. Most patterns are very rare, some unique, and others unknown outside of museums.

A good place to start learning about these pieces is our Beginner's Corner which includes a page on How to use this Website or the Photo Gallery which contains examples of many of the different pattern issues.

The United States Mint produced more than 1000 different patterns, as well as many die trials and experimental pieces. Despite the great rarity of many of these individual items, the great variety makes the series surprisingly collectable.

There are relatively few collectors specializing in United States pattern coinage. Most of these collectors target specific areas. For example, there are collectors who specialize in Indian Cent patterns, others collecting Morgan dollar patterns, and so on.

In addition to these specialists, there are thousands of collectors of regular issue United States coins who try to buy a few patterns to complement their collections. Many of these historical coins have wide appeal and are surprisingly affordable. There are many collectors who, for example, would like to own an 1855 Flying Eagle large cent (J-167, about 500 pieces struck) to go with their collection of large cents or with their collection of Flying Eagle small cents.

Two-Headed Off-Metal 5 Cent Euro Specimen Pattern

by Mike Byers (mikebyers.com)

This 5 Cent Pattern Euro was struck with two obverse dies and is an off-metal on a 4.6 gram copper-nickel planchet. This exceptionally rare type of mint error has occurred less than ten times in U.S. or World modern numismatic history where a coin was struck by either two obverse dies or two reverse dies *and* struck on an off-metal planchet.

Two-Headed Off-Metal 5 Cent Euro Specimen Pattern

It weighs 4.6 grams instead of the regular 3.92 gram weight of a normal 5 Cent Euro which has a composition of copper-plated steel. This two-headed off-metal specimen pattern was certified SP 63 by PCGS.

19 of the 28 European Union (EU) member states have adopted the Euro as their common currency. It is impossible to determine which of the five German mints struck this coin. Is one of the most dramatic and unique mint error discoveries in modern times.

In my NLG Award winning book, *World's Greatest Mint Errors*, I dedicated an entire chapter to two-headed and two-tailed mint errors. In 2001, I purchased a Canadian major mint error collection that included a few previously unknown types of mint errors. Included in this collection was a unique Canadian Cent (two-tailed) struck with two reverse dies. At the time this was thought to be an impossible mint error. My discovery of this unique Canadian two-tailed Cent was featured in a front page Coin World article.

The first set of Euro coins struck with two obverse or two reverse dies was also my discovery and was featured in Mint Error News Magazine. This was an amazing set of 6 Euro coins of different denominations struck with either two-obverse or two-reverse dies.

As unbelievable as it seems, here are the other times this type of mint error has occurred: a 10 Cent Euro, a Chile 5 Pesos, a Chile 10 Pesos, a Great Britain Half Penny and a Russia 50 Roubles. The 10 Cent Euro was struck with two reverse dies and is off-metal on a chrome plated iron planchet. The Chile 5 Pesos was struck with two reverse dies on a Ni-Brass 1 Peso planchet and was certified by PCGS and is unique. The Chile 10 Pesos was struck with two obverse dies on a Bolivian 10 Cent planchet and was certified by PCGS and is unique. The Great Britain Halfpenny was struck with two obverse dies on a copper nickel planchet and was certified by NGC and is unique. The Russia 50 Roubles was struck with two obverse dies on a bi-metallic planchet and was certified by PCGS and is one of three known.

Two-Headed Off-Metal 5 Cent Euro Specimen Pattern

Two-Headed Off-Metal 5 Cent Euro Specimen Pattern

Two-Headed Off-Metal 5 Cent Euro Specimen Pattern

My original Canadian "Two-Tailed" Cent discovery was featured in Coin World:

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Coin World
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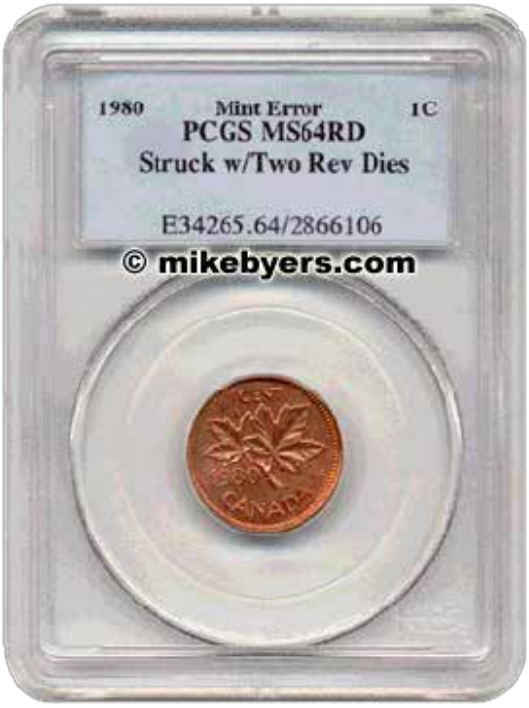

Photos courtesy of Michael S. Byers.

TWO CANADIAN cents with two reverses have been examined and authenticated by PCGS. The side designated as "A" (shown as the left image) on the coin shown was struck from a misaligned die. The same piece was struck from rotated dies (not represented by positioning).

Two cents, four reverses, zero obverses

PCGS authenticates 1980 Canadian cents with double reverses

By Paul Gilkes
COIN WORLD Staff

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The two double-reverse cents were struck with the same pair of reverse dies, according to PCGS President Rick Montgomery.

For reference purposes, the front of the holder shows side "A" and the back of the holder shows side "B."

According to Montgomery, side A on both coins appear to have been struck with a fresh die because of the sharp, detailed strike and high, wire rim, while Side B is rougher in appearance, having been struck with a worn die.

One of the specimens is with normal die rotation, while the other piece has the two sides nearly 100 degrees out of rotation from each other. The second piece also has Side A having been misaligned when struck.

Unlike United States coins, which are struck in what is referred to as "coin turn," Canadian coins and most world coins are struck in "medal turn." The top of the obverse of a U.S. coin is aligned with the bottom of the reverse. With "medal turn" coins,

See **REVERSES** Page 8

Two-Headed Off-Metal 5 Cent Euro Specimen Pattern

THE PORTRAIT of Queen Elizabeth II as it appears on the obverse of 1980 Canadian cents was reduced in 1979 to make the size of the portrait proportional to the diameter of the coin.

REVERSES from Page C1

the top of the obverse is aligned with the top of the reverse.

Montgomery said the diameter of both coins was 19 millimeters and the weight 2.8 grams, the intended size and diameter for the 1980 production year. The composition for the 1980 cent is 98 percent copper, 1.5 percent zinc and 0.5 percent tin.

Canadian cents struck in 1980 and 1981 were of reduced weight compared to earlier cents. The weight was further reduced in 1982.

According to *The Charlton Standard Catalogue of Canadian Coins*: "In 1978, the Mint [Royal Canadian Mint] struck pattern pieces, dated 1979, with a considerably reduced weight and a diameter of 16 mm. The mint was prompted by the rising price of copper, which resulted in the 1-cent piece being coined at a loss. Unfortunately, the diameter of the pattern was the same as that for the tokens used by the Toronto Transit Commission and this was enough to result in the cancellation of plans for the new 16mm cent. The mint struck cents of the old size and design during 1979. However, in 1980, it introduced a coin of the same design as before, but with a decreased diameter and thickness (hence a decreased weight)."

Also, in 1979, as part of the general standardization of Canadian coins, the portrait of Queen Elizabeth II on the obverse was reduced proportional to the diameter of the coin. The portrait was the work of RCM engraver Arnold Machin. The maple leaf reverse is the work of engraver G.E. Kruger-Gray.

The pre-1980 weight for the Canadian cent was 3.24 grams. The coin had a diameter of 19.05 millimeters and a plain edge. The pre-1980 cent composition was also 98 percent copper, 1.5 percent zinc and 0.5 percent tin.

After the two double reverse 1980 cents were certified and encapsulated, the specimen with normal die alignment was acquired by Fred Weinberg, another California dealer specializing in major errors.

Byers is offering the rotated die specimen with an asking price of $30,000. CW

Two-Headed Off-Metal 5 Cent Euro Specimen Pattern

Here is the Two-Headed & Two-Tailed Euro Set I discovered that was featured on the cover of Mint Error News Magazine and Chapter 27 of my book, *World's Greatest Mint Errors*:

Two-Headed Off-Metal 5 Cent Euro Specimen Pattern

MIKE BYERS INC

MIKEBYERS.COM

U.S. & World Major Mint Errors

Consign Your Coins to mikebyers.com

Terms and Conditions

We are offering this service for error collectors and dealers alike. In order to post your item on our website you must agree to the following terms and conditions.

1. All coins must be certified by PCGS or NGC and have a minimum value of $5,000 each. All U.S. Mint Errors must be dated prior to 2002.
2. Each item must meet our inventory criteria in terms of desirability and market value.
3. Mike Byers Inc charges a 10% Commission on each sale.
4. The minimum time for any listing is thirty days.
5. Seller agrees to a seven day return privilege from date of receipt.
6. Seller agrees to use an escrow service if requested by the buyer.
7. We reserve the right to deny or cancel any listing at any time.
8. All listing are subject to prior sale.

Scanning Specifications

1. Scan both the obverse and reverse of the entire holder.
2. Scan with a resolution of at least 300 dpi.
3. Save the picture in jpeg format (jpg).

Information Requirements

In addition to e-mailing a photo of your item, please include the following information:

1. Name, Address & Phone Number
2. E-Mail Address
3. Asking Price

After your item is listed, we will contact you by e-mail with any offers and questions. Once a price is agreed upon we will handle the entire sale for a 10% transaction fee, which includes all costs (eBay fees, grading fees, webmaster charges, postage and registration fees, insurance, paperwork, etc.).

If you have a collection for sale or would like to sell your duplicates and do not want to consign your coin(s), we can purchase your entire collection outright. Please contact us at mike@mikebyers.com.

MIKE BYERS INC

P.O. Box 401496, Las Vegas, NV 89140

MIKE@MIKEBYERS.COM | 714-914-6415

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Major Errors Struck by Private U.S. Mints – Part Two –

by Jeff Ylitalo

Private U.S. Mints and in house metal refineries have numbered in the dozens over the years. Major minting errors from silver rounds to gambling tokens are very popular and eagerly sought by collectors. Erratic record keeping of mintage numbers and identifying which private mint produced major errors can be a challenge to research. It is in-fact on occasion impossible because many rounds and tokens were struck with no identification such as a specific mint's name or privy mark, or mintmark.

The first is a fantastic mule error. It is a 1 oz silver round with the obverse depicting Hollywood star John Wayne wearing a Cavalry hat. It was struck with the wrong reverse die commemorating another Hollywood celebrity, Marilyn Monroe. The reverse die with the design of 'Hollywood Comedy and Tragedy' is correct; however the die with "MARILYN MONROE 1926-1962" was mismatched with the John Wayne obverse die. The correct reverse die is "THE DUKE" and "JOHN WAYNE 1907-1979".

These Hollywood celebrity silver rounds were struck in the mid 1980's by the Crown Mint (CM) located in Scottsdale, Arizona. Over the last 25 year I have seen only two other mule silver rounds from this particular Hollywood celebrity series.

Next, is a 1 oz Prospector & Conestoga Wagon silver round. It is a huge capped die strike with a full mirror brockage of the obverse design on the reverse.

This is a very popular silver round with any major errors being quickly snapped up by collectors. I haven't been successful in finding the private mint that struck these silver rounds. If anyone has information please do share.

Lastly, is an attractively toned 1983 (No Date) 1 oz Chinese Giant Panda silver round. It is broadstruck and exhibits a strong partial collar. It was struck by the American Medallion Corporation (AMC) for a number of years both with and without dates. Well known in the 1980's, AMC minted a great assortment of thematic rounds including DC Comics and Marvel Comics superheroes. AMC also minted silver rounds in a series honoring entertainers, patriots, and mythological creatures. AMC was based in Houston, TX and ceased operations in 1989.

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Mint Error News Price Guide

- Updated November 2024 -

This price guide is brought to you by Mint Error News. It has been compiled by many of the top major mint error dealers.

This price guide is a guide. Prices fluctuate due to the date, grade, eye appeal and how dramatic the striking error is. Rarity is also a factor. The price is sometimes based on the rarity and grade of the type of coin as well as how rare the error is. The price can also vary depending on whether two collectors are bidding for the same rare major mint error. When purchasing a mint error, it is important to use multiple resources to determine value, as there are many mint errors that do not fit into one category.

Proof Errors (Updated November 2024)

Proof coins are struck by technicians who hand feed the blanks into special presses. They are produced, examined, and packaged using extreme quality control. It is very unusual to find major proof errors. A few broadstrikes, off-centers, double strikes in collars and off-metals have been known to be found in sealed proof sets. Proof errors are aggressively sought after by many error collectors.

A very small group of Proof errors recently came from a collection that was auctioned by the State of California. The U.S. Secret Service inspected and released this collection to the State of California determining that it was legal to own. The State of California then auctioned the collection and it has been dispersed since the sale.

Denomination	Broadstrikes	Die Trials	Double/Triple Strikes	Off-Center Strikes	Partial Collar Errors
Proof Lincoln Cent	$1,000 - $1,500	$1,000	$3,000	$1,500 - $3,000	$500
Proof Jefferson Nickel	$2,500 - $4,000	$4,000	$4,000	$2,000 - $5,000	$1,000
Proof Clad Dime	$3,000 - $5,000	$4,000	$4,000	$2,500 - $5,000	$1,250
Proof Clad Quarter	$4,000 - $5,000	$5,000	$6,000	$7,500	$1,500
Proof Clad Half	$5,000 - $7,000	$4,000 - $5,000	$7,500	$10,000	$2,000
Proof Ike Dollar	$15,000	-	$25,000	-	$4,000
Presidential Dollar	-	-	-	-	3 Known

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Broadstrikes (Updated November 2024)

A broadstruck error occurs when a coin is struck without the collar to form the rim and edge that is part of the shape of the coin. Coins can be broadstruck on either type one or type two planchets. When a coin is broadstruck the blank being fed into the collar will spread and distort outward as it is being struck because the collar isn't in the correct position to retain it.

Denomination	(Small) XF/AU	(Small) Unc	(Large) XF/AU	(Large) Unc
Large Cent	$150	$300	$400	$1,500
Flying Eagle Cent (1857 – 1858)	$1,000	$2,500	$1,500	$7,500
Indian Cent	$50	$150	$200	$350
Lincoln Cent 1930 and Earlier	$50	$150	$100	$250
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	$40	$100	$75	$200
Proof Lincoln Cent	N/A	$1,500	N/A	$2,500
3 Cent Nickel	$250	$1,000	$400	$1,500
3 Cent Silver	$1,000	$3,500	$1,500	$5,000
Shield Nickel	$400	$1,250	$1,000	$2,500
Liberty Nickel	$150	$300	$200	$600
Buffalo Nickel	$100	$200	$200	$500
Jefferson Nickel War Time	$100	$200	$200	$500
Proof Jefferson Nickel	N/A	$2,500	N/A	$4,000
Seated Half Dime Legend	$1,500	$3,500	$2,000	$7,500
Seated Dime Legend	$1,500	$3,500	$2,000	$7,500
Barber Dime	$150	$250	$200	$400
Mercury Dime	$40	$150	$150	$250
Proof Clad Dime	N/A	$3,000	N/A	$5,000
Barber Quarter	$600	$1,250	$1,000	$2,500
Standing Liberty Quarter	$2,000	$4,000	$3,000	$6,000
Washington Quarter Silver	$75	$150	$100	$250
State Quarter	N/A	$25	N/A	$50
Proof Clad Quarter	N/A	$4,000	N/A	$5,000
Barber Half	$1,000	$2,000	$2,000	$4,000
Walking Liberty Half	$3,000	$5,000	$4,000	$7,000
Franklin Half	$1,500	$3,000	$2,000	$4,000
Kennedy Half Silver	$150	$250	$200	$300
Kennedy Half Clad	$40	$60	$50	$75
Proof Clad Half	N/A	$5,000	N/A	$7,000
Morgan Dollar	$200	$500	$400	$1,000
Peace Dollar	$5,000	$7,500	$6,000	$10,000
IKE Dollar	$100	$150	$150	$200
SBA Dollar	$50	$75	$100	$200
Sac Dollar	N/A	$300	N/A	$1,000
Presidential Dollar	N/A	$1,500	N/A	$2,500

Partial Collars (Updated November 2024)

Partial collar strikes occur when there is a malfunction of the striking press. This causes the collar to be in an incorrect position. The lower die (usually the reverse die) is recessed in the collar. This allows the coin which is going to be struck to have a formed rim. After a coin is struck the lower die raises upwards, pushing the struck coin out of the collar and ejecting it. If a blank entering the collar is not properly seated, it will only have partial reeding as it is struck. The edge of this coin will have a partial reeding and a partial blank surface area. Recently, the Mint has installed new machinery where either die can be installed in either position.

Denomination	XF/AU	Unc
Large Cent	$100	$200
Flying Eagle Cent (1857 – 1858)	$500	$1,500
Indian Cent	$35	$100
Lincoln Cent 1930 and Earlier	$30	$100
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	$25	$50
Proof Lincoln Cent	N/A	$750
3 Cent Nickel	$150	$500
3 Cent Silver	$250	$750
Shield Nickel	$200	$600
Liberty Nickel	$50	$150
Buffalo Nickel	$50	$75
Jefferson Nickel War Time	$40	$60
Proof Jefferson Nickel	N/A	$1,000
Seated Half Dime Legend	$750	$1,500
Seated Dime Legend	$500	$1,250
Barber Dime	$75	$150
Mercury Dime	$30	$100
Proof Clad Dime	N/A	$1,250
Barber Quarter	$300	$750
Standing Liberty Quarter	$1,250	$2,000
Washington Quarter Silver	$40	$75
State Quarter	N/A	$15
Proof Clad Quarter	N/A	$1,500
Barber Half	$1,000	$1,500
Walking Liberty Half	$1,500	$3,500
Franklin Half	$500	$1,000
Kennedy Half Silver	$50	$100
Kennedy Half Clad	$20	$30
Proof Clad Half	N/A	$2,000
Morgan Dollar	$150	$300
Peace Dollar	$1,000	$2,500
IKE Dollar	$50	$100
SBA Dollar	$20	$30
Sac Dollar	N/A	$100
Presidential Dollar	N/A	$400
$1 Gold Type 1	$2,500	$5,000
$1 Gold Type 2	$5,000	$10,000
$1 Gold Type 3	$2,000	$3,000
$2½ Liberty	$2,000	$3,000
$2½ Indian	$2,000	$3,000
$3	$5,000	$10,000
$5 Liberty	$4,000	$5,000
$5 Indian	$4,000	$6,000
$10 Liberty	$4,000	$7,500
$10 Indian	$7,500	$10,000
$20 Liberty Type 3	$7,500	$10,000

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Uniface Strikes (Updated November 2024)

Uniface coins occur when there have been two blank planchets in the press at the same time. The other blank will obstruct the die on either the obverse or reverse side, which will prevent it from having that design on the coin. There are many different variations involving uniface errors. In addition to having a 100% blank obverse or reverse, a coin can be struck off-center, with a blank planchet in the collar which will obstruct one side of the off-center. There are also mated pairs which have a combination of multiple errors which can include a side which is uniface. Finally, there are uniface strikes due to a die cap which adhered to the die, forming itself in the shape of a die and striking blank planchets.

Denomination	Uniface Obverse XF	Uniface Obverse Unc	Uniface Reverse XF	Uniface Reverse Unc
Large Cent	$1,500	$4,000	$1,250	$2,000
Indian Cent	$750	$3,000	$700	$2,500
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	$250	$500	$200	$400
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	$50	$100	$40	$75
3 Cent Nickel	$1,500	$3,000	$1,250	$2,500
Shield Nickel	$1,750	$4,000	$1,500	$3,000
Liberty Nickel	$2,000	$3,500	$1,500	$3,000
Buffalo Nickel	$2,250	$3,000	$2,000	$2,500
Jefferson Nickel War Time	$300	$750	$250	$500
Jefferson Nickel	$20	$40	$20	$40
Barber Dime	$2,000	$3,000	$1,500	$2,500
Mercury Dime	$1,500	$2,500	$1,250	$2,250
Roosevelt Dime Silver	$100	$150	$100	$150
Roosevelt Dime Clad	$40	$75	$35	$60
Washington Quarter Silver	$400	$750	$350	$500
Washington Quarter Clad	$100	$125	$75	$100
State Quarter	N/A	$300	N/A	$500
Kennedy Half Clad	$750	$1,000	$500	$750
IKE Dollar	$2,000	$4,000	N/A	$3,000
SBA Dollar	$500	$1,000	N/A	$750
Sac Dollar	$750	$1,500	N/A	$1,000

Bonded Coins

(Updated November 2024)

Bonded coins occur when the feeder system, which supplies blank planchets to the coin press, malfunctions and jams. When this occurs, a struck coin is not properly ejected and another planchet is fed into the collar and is struck. This struck coin will land on top of the previously unejected strike. These coins will then crush and bond together. This may occur many times as more coins bond.

Denomination	2 Planchets	3-4 Planchets	5-10 Planchets
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	$5,000	$15,000	–
Lincoln Cent Memorial	$600	$2,000	$5,000 - $10,000
Jefferson Nickel	$1,250	$5,000	$6,000 - $10,000
Roosevelt Dime Silver	$4,000	$12,500	–
Roosevelt Dime Clad	$1,500	$5,000	–
Washington Quarter Silver	$7,500	–	–
Washington Quarter Clad	$3,000	–	–
State Quarter	$5,000	–	–
Kennedy Half Silver	$12,500	–	–
Kennedy Half Clad	$10,000	–	–
IKE Dollar	–	–	–
SBA Dollar	$10,000	–	–
Sac Dollar	$10,000	–	–

Struck Fragments

(Updated November 2024)

The blanking press takes the coils of metal strips and punches blanks out of it, ejecting the webbing at the other end. The webbing is cut into small scrap pieces to be melted and recycled. Occasionally a scrap piece will be mixed with the blank planchets and struck by the dies. Struck fragments are rare in the larger denominations. These can be uniface or die struck both sides and are very rare on type coins.

Denomination	Uniface	Die Struck Both Sides
Indian Cent	$1,000	$2,000
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	$750	$2,000
Lincoln Cent Memorial	$75	$125
3 Cent Nickel	$3,000	$3,500
Jefferson Nickel	$100	$200
Roosevelt Dime Silver	$500	$1,000
Roosevelt Dime Clad	$150	$250
Washington Quarter Silver	$1,250	$1,500
Washington Quarter Clad	$200	$300
State Quarter	$750	$1,000
Kennedy Half Silver	$1,500	$2,500
Kennedy Half Clad	$750	$1,250
IKE Dollar	$4,000	$6,000
SBA Dollar	$2,000	$3,000
Sac Dollar	$2,000	$4,000

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Mated Pairs (Updated November 2024)

Mated pairs involve two individual coins with different errors that were struck together at the same time. Mated pair error combinations can be found in most error types and come in many shapes and sizes. Mated pairs can be overlapped when one of the coins is struck off-center on top of another coin. Another type involves a brockage where a struck coin was perfectly centered on a blank and restruck. Some mated pairs involve a die cap where the cap and brockage coin are discovered together, but this is a scarce find.

The rarest mated pair type involves two die caps (obverse and reverse) where both dies were capped at the same time and both die caps are mated. This last type is extremely rare and there are only a few known examples of mated pairs involving an obverse die cap and reverse die cap. There are several of these mated pairs known on Kennedy Halves including two dated 1976, which is the Bicentennial year. One of the most spectacular mated pairs involve two Barber Dimes, an obverse die cap mated to a reverse die cap and are unique.

Mated pairs can also involve an off-metal where a smaller blank planchet or smaller struck coin was struck on top of a larger coin. This type is extremely rare. The most spectacular pair known is a double struck Franklin Half which was mated to a Lincoln Cent. The Lincoln Cent blank was on top of the obverse of the struck Franklin Half. This pair was then struck together. It is unique.

Denomination	Overlapping	Full Brockage	Die Cap	2 Die Caps
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	$3,500	$4,500	$7,500	–
Lincoln Cent Memorial	$500	$750	$750	$1,250
Liberty Nickel	–	$20,000	–	–
Jefferson Nickel (pre War Time)	–	–	–	$15,000
Jefferson Nickel	$1,000	$1,250	$1,500	$2,500
Barber Dime	–	–	–	$50,000
Roosevelt Dime Silver	$3,500	$4,000	$4,000	–
Roosevelt Dime Clad	$1,250	$1,500	$2,500	$3,000
Washington Quarter Silver	$5,000	–	–	–
Washington Quarter Clad	$2,000	$2,500	$5,000	$7,500
State Quarter	$4,000	$6,000	$10,000	–
Kennedy Half Silver	$7,500	$7,500	$7,500	$12,500
Kennedy Half Clad	$5,000	$6,000	$6,000	$8,500
Kennedy Half Bicentennial	$6,000	$7,500	$7,500	$10,000
IKE Dollar	$20,000	–	–	–
SBA Dollar	$10,000	$12,500	–	–
Sac Dollar	–	–	–	–

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Transitional Errors (Updated November 2024)

A transitional error occurs when a coin is struck on a planchet from a previous year with different metal composition. The most famous transitional is a 1943 copper cent struck on a 1942 copper blank. 1943 cents were struck in steel because of the copper shortage during World War II. Other famous transitionals include 1965 coinage struck in silver instead of clad.

There are also transitionals struck on blanks for the next year. An example is 1964 coinage in clad instead of silver. Most recently, transitionals were discovered involving the SBA and Sacagawea Dollars of 1999 and 2000. There are eight known 1999 SBA Dollars struck on the brass planchet for the 2000 Sacagawea Dollar, and four known 2000 Sacagawea Dollars struck on a clad planchet for the 1999 SBA Dollar.

Denomination	Off-Metal Planchet	Circulated	AU	Unc	Choice Unc – Gem
Lincoln Cent 1943 Transitional	Copper Cent Planchet	$75,000	$100,000	$200,000	$250,000
Lincoln Cent 1944 Transitional	Steel Cent Planchet	$30,000	$50,000	$100,000	$150,000
Lincoln Cent 1964 Transitional	Clad Dime Planchet	$2,000	$3,000	$3,500	$4,000
Lincoln Cent 1965 Transitional	Silver Dime Planchet	$2,750	$4,500	$6,000	$7,500
Roosevelt Dime 1964 Transitional	Clad Dime Planchet	$5,000	$6,500	$7,500	$8,500
Roosevelt Dime 1965 Transitional	Silver Dime Planchet	$5,000	$6,500	$7,500	$8,500
Washington Quarter 1964 Transitional	Clad Quarter Planchet	$5,000	$6,500	$7,500	$8,500
Washington Quarter 1965 Transitional	Silver Quarter Planchet	$5,000	$6,500	$7,500	$8,500
Kennedy Half 1964 Transitional	Clad Half Planchet	$5,000	$6,000	$7,000	$9,000
Kennedy Half 1965 Transitional	Silver Half Planchet	$5,000	$6,500	$7,500	$10,000
Kennedy Half 1964 Transitional	Clad Quarter Planchet	$5,000	$6,000	$7,500	$8,500
Kennedy Half 1965 Transitional	Silver Quarter Planchet	$7,000	$8,000	$9,000	$10,000
Ike Dollar Transitional	40% Silver Planchet	$2,750	$3,000	$3,500	$4,000
SBA Dollar Transitional	Sacagawea Planchet	N/A	N/A	$7,500	$10,000
Sacagawea Dollar Transitional	SBA Planchet	N/A	N/A	$7,500	$10,000

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U.S. Gold Errors (Updated November 2024)

Major mint errors on U.S. Gold coins are the most prized category of all mint errors. Gold errors are very rare and a few have traded in the $75,000 to $100,000 range. Even a broadstruck U.S. Gold coin can easily sell for $15,000 to $30,000 compared to a broadstruck Cent, Nickel, Dime or Quarter which all sell for well under $10. Many serious collectors of Gold Errors have to wait patiently for months and sometimes even years to acquire that one special piece for their collection.

The prices listed here are for common dates in AU-Unc. Better dates and errors that are in gem condition are worth considerably more.

Denomination	Partial Collar	Broadstruck	Clipped Planchet	3% - 5% Off-Center	10% - 15% Off-Center
$1 Gold Type 1	$1,000	$5,000	$2,000	$10,000	$25,000
$1 Gold Type 2	$5,000	$10,000	$10,000	$20,000	$35,000
$1 Gold Type 3	$1,000	$4,000	$1,500	$7,500	$15,000
$2½ Liberty	$2,000	$7,500	$2,500	$10,000	$20,000
$2½ Indian	$2,000	$7,500	$2,500	$7,500	$17,500
$3 Indian	$5,000	$15,000	$5,000	$15,000	$35,000
$5 Liberty	$4,000	$8,500	$3,000	$12,500	$30,000
$5 Indian	$5,000	$10,000	$3,000	$30,000	$50,000
$10 Liberty	$4,000	$20,000	$3,000	$25,000	$50,000
$10 Indian	$5,000	$20,000	$5,000	$30,000	$60,000
$20 Liberty	$5,000	$20,000	$7,500	$50,000	$125,000
$20 St. Gaudens	–	–	$5,000	–	–
$5 American Eagle	$1,000	$2,000	$750	$2,500	$3,500
$10 American Eagle	$1,250	$2,500	$1,000	$3,000	$3,500
$25 American Eagle	$1,500	$3,000	$1,500	$3,500	$5,000
$50 American Eagle	$2,000	$5,000	$2,000	$5,000	$10,000

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Indents (Updated November 2024)

An indent error occurs when two blanks are fed inadvertently into the same collar, with one blank partly overlaying on top of the other. When the hammer die strikes this combination, the upper blank will be forced into the lower blank, creating a depression which is shaped similar to the upper blank. A scarce type of indent occurs when a blank intended for one denomination lands on top of a blank from a different denomination.

Denomination	10% - 25% XF	30% - 50% XF	10% - 25% Unc	30% - 50% Unc
Large Cent	$300	$600	$750	$2,000
Indian Cent	$250	$500	$400	$750
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	$100	$300	$175	$500
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	$30	$75	$75	$125
3 Cent Nickel	$500	$1,250	$1,500	$3,000
Shield Nickel	$500	$1,500	$2,000	$3,000
Liberty Nickel	$400	$1,000	$750	$1,500
Buffalo Nickel	$300	$1,000	$600	$2,000
Jefferson Nickel War Time	$200	$400	$400	$750
Jefferson Nickel	$10	$25	$15	$30
Barber Dime	$1,000	$2,000	$1,500	$3,000
Mercury Dime	$300	$750	$500	$1,500
Roosevelt Dime Silver	$30	$60	$50	$100
Roosevelt Dime Clad	$10	$20	$15	$30
Washington Quarter Silver	$100	$200	$150	$300
Washington Quarter Clad	$25	$50	$35	$100
State Quarter	N/A	N/A	$200	$350
Kennedy Half Clad	$150	$300	$200	$400
IKE Dollar	$350	$1,000	$500	$1,500
SBA Dollar	$200	$400	$250	$500
Sac Dollar	$300	$500	$400	$750

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Die Caps (Updated November 2024)

Die caps are caused when a struck coin sticks to the upper hammer die. Once the coin is struck to the die face, the reverse of the struck coin becomes the new die face. When the next blank is fed into the collar and the strike occurs, the reverse design of the adhered struck coin impresses itself into the new blank. This struck coin is a brockage strike. The coin that adhered to the upper die is known as a die cap. This process repeats itself as more coins are struck by the cap. The greater the number of strikes, the higher the cap metal will be pushed around the upper die shaft. Eventually, the cap brakes away from the die in the shape of a thimble.

Denomination	Obverse Cap XF	Obverse Cap Unc	Reverse Cap XF	Reverse Cap Unc
Large Cent	$25,000	$50,000	–	–
Indian Cent 1859	$20,000	$40,000	–	–
Indian Cent 1860-1864	$15,000	$40,000	–	–
Indian Cent 1864-1909	$15,000	$30,000	–	–
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	–	–	–	–
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	$1,000	$2,500	$500	$1,000
Lincoln Cent Memorial	$150	$200	$50	$100
2 Cent Piece	$20,000	$50,000	$15,000	$30,000
3 Cent Nickel	–	–	–	–
Shield Nickel	–	–	–	–
Liberty Nickel	$12,500	$25,000	–	–
Buffalo Nickel (1 Known)	–	$30,000	–	–
Jefferson Nickel War Time	$10,000	–	–	–
Jefferson Nickel	$200	$350	$150	$250
Barber Dime	$15,000	$30,000	$12,500	$20,000
Mercury Dime (2 Known)	$5,000	$7,500	–	–
Roosevelt Dime Silver	$750	$1,250	$500	$750
Roosevelt Dime Clad	$200	$400	$200	$250
Barber Quarter	$20,000	$50,000	–	–
Washington Quarter Silver	$1,500	$4,000	$1,500	$2,000
Washington Quarter Clad	$350	$750	$250	$350
State Quarter	N/A	$1,000	N/A	$600
Kennedy Half Silver	$3,000	$5,000	$2,000	$3,000
Kennedy Half Clad	$2,000	$3,500	$1,500	$2,000
Kennedy Half Bicentennial	$2,500	$4,000	$1,750	$2,500
IKE Dollar	–	$30,000	–	–
SBA Dollar	N/A	$15,000	N/A	$10,000
Sac Dollar	N/A	$15,000	N/A	$15,000

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Die Adjustment Strikes (Updated November 2024)

Die adjustment strikes are also known as die trials. This error occurs when a coin is struck from the press with very little pressure. When the press is being set up and adjusted, extremely weak strikes occur as the strike pressure reaches its optimum level. These die trials are destroyed after being struck and are rarely found in circulation.

Denomination	XF/AU	Unc
Indian Cent	$1,000	$2,000
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ear	$200	$300
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	$750	$1,500
Lincoln Cent Memorial	$50	$75
2 Cent	$5,000	–
Liberty Nickel	$3,000	$5,000
Buffalo Nickel	$4,000	$7,500
Jefferson Nickel War Time	$1,250	$2,000
Jefferson Nickel	$75	$100
Proof Jefferson Nickel	N/A	$4,000
Barber Dime	$2,500	$3,500
Mercury Dime	$1,000	$1,500
Roosevelt Dime Silver	$350	$500
Roosevelt Dime Clad	$100	$125
Seated Quarter	$4,000	$7,500
Standing Liberty Quarter	$7,500	$15,000
Washington Quarter Silver	$500	$750
Washington Quarter Clad (Pre-State)	$125	$150
State Quarter	N/A	$200
Walking Liberty Half	$2,500	$5,000
Kennedy Half Silver	$500	$750
Kennedy Half Clad	$200	$250
Proof Kennedy Half 40% Silver	N/A	$5,000
Proof Kennedy Half Clad	N/A	$4,000
Morgan Dollar	$4,000	$7,500
Peace Dollar	$7,000	$10,000
IKE Dollar	$300	$400
IKE Dollar Bicentennial	$350	$500
SBA Dollar	N/A	$500
Sac Dollar	N/A	$1,000

Mint Error News Price Guide

Double Denominations (Updated November 2024)

One of the most expensive, popular, and desired types of errors are the double denominations. This error happens when a coin is struck on a previously struck coin of a smaller denomination. Examples are a cent on a struck dime, and a nickel on a struck cent. The most dramatic are those with considerable design visible from the original strike. There are a few known double denominations with different dates.

Denomination	Struck On	Circulated	AU	Unc
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	Mercury Dime	$6,000	$12,500	$20,000
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	Roosevelt Dime	$4,000	$5,000	$6,000
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	Foreign Coin	$2,000	$2,500	–
Lincoln Cent Memorial	Roosevelt Dime Silver	$3,000	$4,500	$6,000
Lincoln Cent Memorial	Roosevelt Dime Clad	N/A	N/A	$750
Lincoln Cent Memorial	Foreign Coin	N/A	$600	$750
Jefferson Nickel	Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	$1,500	$2,000	$2,500
Jefferson Nickel	Lincoln Cent Memorial	N/A	$750	$1,000
Jefferson Nickel	Foreign Coin	$1,000	$1,250	$1,500
Jefferson Nickel	Roosevelt Dime	$1,000	$1,250	$1,500
Roosevelt Dime Silver	Foreign Coin	$4,000	$5,000	$7,500
Roosevelt Dime Clad	Foreign Coin	$3,000	$4,000	$5,000
Washington Quarter Silver	Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	$3,000	$4,000	$6,000
Washington Quarter Silver	Lincoln Cent Memorial	$2,500	$3,000	$3,500
Washington Quarter Silver	Foreign Coin	$2,500	$3,000	$3,500
Washington Quarter Silver	Jefferson Nickel	$3,000	$4,000	$6,000
Washington Quarter Silver	Roosevelt Dime Silver	$2,500	$3,000	$3,500
Washington Quarter Clad	Lincoln Cent Memorial	$2,500	$3,000	$3,500
Washington Quarter Clad	Foreign Coin	$2,000	$2,500	$3,000
Washington Quarter Clad	Jefferson Nickel	$2,500	$3,000	$3,500
Washington Quarter Clad	Roosevelt Dime Clad	$2,000	$2,500	$3,000
State Quarter	Jefferson Nickel	N/A	$5,000	$7,500
State Quarter (Extremely Rare)	Any Other Denomination	N/A	$10,000	$12,500
Franklin Half	Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	$7,500	$12,500	$25,000
Kennedy Half (Extremely Rare)	Any Denomination	$7,500	$10,000	$12,500
IKE Dollar (Extremely Rare)	Any Denomination	$15,000	$20,000	$25,000
Sac Dollar	Maryland State Quarter	N/A	$3,000	$4,000

Mint Error News Price Guide

Brockages (Updated November 2024)

A brockage error can only occur when there are two coins involved. One of the coins involved will always be a struck coin which has not ejected properly. That struck coin will find its way back between the dies and will be struck next to a blank planchet which was fed into the collar. The image of that first struck coin will be impressed into that side of the blank planchet. The result will be a second coin which has images of the first coin impressed into it. Those images will be pressed into the coin and the image will be in reverse. This incuse sunken image is known as a brockage.

Denomination	50% Brockage XF	100% Brockage XF	50% Brockage Unc	100% Brockage Unc
Large Cent	$600	$1,000	$3,000	$10,000
Indian Cent	$500	$1,250	$1,500	$4,000
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	$350	$500	$650	$1,000
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	$125	$200	$200	$350
3 Cent Nickel	$1,250	$2,000	$3,500	$5,000
3 Cent Silver	$2,000	$3,000	$3,000	$6,000
Shield Nickel	$1,500	$2,500	$3,500	$5,000
Liberty Nickel	$1,250	$2,250	$2,000	$4,000
Buffalo Nickel	$2,000	$2,500	$4,000	$7,500
Jefferson Nickel War Time	$250	$750	$750	$1,500
Jefferson Nickel	$50	$75	$50	$150
Barber Dime	$1,500	$3,500	$5,000	$12,500
Mercury Dime	$750	$3,000	$1,500	$4,000
Roosevelt Dime Silver	$100	$200	$150	$250
Roosevelt Dime Clad	$50	$100	$75	$150
Washington Quarter Silver	$200	$500	$500	$1,000
Washington Quarter Clad	$75	$150	$150	$250
State Quarter	N/A	N/A	$750	$1,500
Kennedy Half Clad	N/A	N/A	$650	$1,500
IKE Dollar	$1,500	$4,000	$3,000	$7,500
SBA Dollar	N/A	N/A	$500	$2,500
Sac Dollar	N/A	N/A	$1,500	$5,000

Mint Error News Price Guide

Double & Multiple Strikes (Updated November 2024)

When a blank planchet is struck by the dies, the normal procedure is for the feeders to eject the struck coin out of the collar and into a chute. If there is a malfunction and the struck coin isn't ejected, it may receive a second or third strike by the dies. A multiple struck coin can happen in many ways and have many combinations of errors.

(Since each double and multiple strike can vary from being 10% off-center to 90% off-center, the prices listed below can be substantially more based on the percent off-center and dramatic overall look.)

Denomination	XF/AU	Unc
Large Cent	$1,000	$7,500
Indian Cent	$600	$1,000
Lincoln Cent 1930 and Earlier	$850	$1,500
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	$400	$1,500
Proof Lincoln Cent	N/A	$4,000
3 Cent Nickel	$2,000	$3,500
Liberty Nickel	$4,000	$10,000
Buffalo Nickel	$5,000	$10,000
Jefferson Nickel War Time	$750	$2,000
Proof Jefferson Nickel	N/A	$5,000
Barber Dime	$4,000	$10,000
Mercury Dime	$3,500	$8,500
Proof Clad Dime	N/A	$5,000
Standing Liberty Quarter	$15,000	$50,000
Washington Quarter Silver	$200	$350
State Quarter	N/A	$350 – $750
Proof Clad Quarter	N/A	$6,000
Walking Liberty Half	$10,000	$25,000
Franklin Half	$6,500	$10,000
Kennedy Half Silver	$1,500	$2,500
Kennedy Half Clad	N/A	$750
Proof Kennedy Half Clad	N/A	$7,500
Morgan Dollar	$10,000	$25,000
Peace Dollar	$15,000	$40,000
IKE Dollar	$2,000	$4,000 - $7,500
SBA Dollar	$1,000	$2,500 – $4,000
Sac Dollar	$750	$1,250 – $2,500

Mint Error News Price Guide

Off-Center Strikes (Updated November 2024)

Off-center coins are one of the most common and best known types of errors. This happens when a blank which is supposed to be fed into the press, lands in the collar improperly. When this occurs only part of the blank is between the upper and lower dies. When the dies strike the blank, only that part will be struck with a design.

Denomination	10% - 15% XF/AU	25% - 60% XF/AU	10% - 15% Unc	25% - 60% Unc
Large Cent	$400	$2,500	$1,000	$10,000
Flying Eagle Cent (1857 – 1858)	$2,500	$10,000	$5,000	$20,000
Indian Cent	$100	$400	$200	$600
Lincoln Cent 1930 and Earlier	$75	$300	$150	$750
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	$40	$250	$100	$500
Proof Lincoln Cent	N/A	N/A	$1,500	$3,000
3 Cent Nickel	$300	$1,500	$600	$3,500
3 Cent Silver	$1,000	$5,000	$2,000	$7,500
Shield Nickel	$750	$2,500	$1,000	$7,500
Liberty Nickel	$250	$1,000	$500	$2,500
Buffalo Nickel	$250	$750	$400	$1,500
Jefferson Nickel War Time	$100	$500	$200	$1,000
Proof Jefferson Nickel	N/A	N/A	$2,000	$5,000
Seated Half Dime Legend	$3,000	$7,500	$5,000	$15,000
Seated Dime Legend	$2,000	$7,000	$3,500	$10,000
Barber Dime	$300	$1,500	$500	$2,500
Mercury Dime	$100	$750	$150	$1,250
Proof Clad Dime	N/A	N/A	$2,500	$5,000
Barber Quarter	$1,500	$5,000	$2,500	$10,000
Standing Liberty Quarter	$5,000	$20,000	$20,000	$40,000
Washington Quarter Silver	$50	$100	$75	$150
State Quarter	N/A	N/A	$75	$300
Proof Clad Quarter	N/A	N/A	$3,000	$6,000
Barber Half	$4,000	$10,000	$6,000	$20,000
Walking Liberty Half	$4,000	$12,500	$7,500	$20,000
Franklin Half	$2,500	$4,000	$3,500	$7,500
Kennedy Half Silver	$100	$500	$250	$1,000
Kennedy Half Clad	$60	$250	$100	$400
Proof Clad Half	N/A	N/A	$4,000	$7,500
Morgan Dollar	$3,000	$15,000	$10,000	$50,000
Peace Dollar	$20,000	$35,000	$50,000	$100,000
IKE Dollar	$125	$1,250	$150	$2,000
SBA Dollar	N/A	N/A	$100	$500
Sac Dollar	N/A	N/A	$1,000	$3,500
Presidential Dollar	–	–	$1,500	$5,000

Off-Metals

(Updated November 2024)

Off-metal and wrong planchet errors occur when a correctly made blank from one denomination is accidentally fed into a press for another denomination. Examples are a nickel struck on a cent planchet and a cent struck on a dime planchet. The coin struck on an incorrect blank will weigh exactly what the denomination of that blank would have been. An even more dramatic wrong planchet error is a coin struck on a previously struck coin of a different metal.

Denomination	Off-Metal Planchet	Circulated	AU	Unc	Choice Unc – Gem
Indian Cent	Foreign Planchet	$1,000	$1,500	$5,000	$7,500
Indian Cent	Dime Planchet	$20,000	$30,000	$50,000	$75,000
Lincoln Cent Before 1919	Dime Planchet	$4,000	$6,500	$10,000	–
Lincoln Cent Before 1919	Foreign Planchet	$750	$2,000	$4,000	–
Lincoln Cent 1919 – 1940	Dime Planchet	$2,000	$2,500	$4,000	$6,000
Lincoln Cent 1919 – 1940	Foreign Planchet	$500	$1,000	$1,500	$2,500
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	Dime Planchet	$1,500	$2,500	$3,500	$7,500
Lincoln Cent 1943 Transitional	Copper Cent Planchet	$75,000	100,000	$150,000	$200,000
Lincoln Cent 1944 Transitional	Steel Cent Planchet	$30,000	$50,000	$100,000	$150,000
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears (1941-1964)	Dime Planchet	$500	$600	$1,000	$2,000
Lincoln Cent 1965 and Later	Dime Planchet	$125	$150	$200	$350
Lincoln Cent 1964 Transitional	Clad Dime Planchet	$2,000	$3,000	$3,500	$4,000
Lincoln Cent 1965 Transitional	Silver Dime Planchet	$2,750	$4,500	$6,000	$7,500
Shield Nickel	Foreign Planchet	$7,500	$12,500	–	–
Shield Nickel	Cent Planchet	$15,000	$25,000	$40,000	$60,000
Liberty Nickel	Foreign Planchet	$400	$750	$1,250	$2,000
Liberty Nickel	Cent Planchet	$2,000	$3,000	$6,000	$7,500
Buffalo Nickel	Foreign Planchet	$2,500	$7,500	$12,500	–
Buffalo Nickel	Cent Planchet	$2,000	$4,000	$6,000	$8,000
Jefferson Nickel Before 1950	Cent Planchet	$250	$500	$750	$1,000
Jefferson Nickel 1950 and Later	Cent Planchet	$125	$150	$200	$250
Jefferson Nickel 1943	Steel Cent Planchet	$1,000	$2,000	$3,000	$5,000
Jefferson Nickel 1964 and Earlier	Silver Dime Planchet	$200	$300	$350	$400
Jefferson Nickel 1965 and Later	Clad Dime Planchet	$150	$200	$225	$250
Roosevelt Dime Silver	Foreign Planchet	$2,000	$2,500	$3,000	$3,500
Roosevelt Dime Clad	Foreign Planchet	$1,500	$2,000	$2,250	$2,500
Roosevelt Dime 1964 Transitional	Clad Dime Planchet	$5,000	$6,500	$10,000	$12,500
Roosevelt Dime 1965 Transitional	Silver Dime Planchet	$5,000	$6,500	$7,500	$8,500
Washington Quarter Silver	Cent Planchet	$300	$400	$500	$750
Washington Quarter Silver	Nickel Planchet	$300	$400	$500	$600
Washington Quarter Clad	Cent Planchet	$250	$300	$400	$500

Mint Error News Price Guide

Off-Metals (Updated November 2024)

Denomination	Off-Metal Planchet	Circulated	AU	Unc	Choice Unc – Gem
Washington Quarter Clad	Nickel Planchet	$100	$150	$200	$250
Washington Quarter	Silver Dime Planchet	$300	$400	$500	$650
Washington Quarter	Clad Dime Planchet	$250	$300	$350	$400
Washington Quarter 1964 Transitional	Clad Quarter Planchet	$5,000	$6,500	$7,500	$12,500
Washington Quarter 1965 Transitional	Silver Quarter Planchet	$5,000	$6,500	$7,500	$8,500
State Quarter	Cent Planchet	N/A	$6,500	$7,500	$8,000
Delaware State Quarter	Nickel Planchet	N/A	$500	$650	$750
All Other State Quarters	Nickel Planchet	N/A	$1,000	$1,250	$1,500
State Quarter	Dime Planchet	N/A	$5,000	$5,500	$6,000
Walking Half	Dime Planchet	N/A	N/A	N/A	$50,000
Walking Half	Quarter Planchet	$17,500	$22,500	$40,000	$35,000
Walking Half	Foreign Planchet	$10,000	$15,000	$30,000	$25,000
Franklin Half	Cent Planchet	$3,000	$4,000	$5,000	$6,000
Franklin Half	Nickel Planchet	$3,000	$4,000	$5,000	$6,000
Franklin Half	Dime Planchet	$3,500	$4,500	$5,500	$6,500
Franklin Half	Quarter Planchet	$600	$750	$1,000	$1,250
Kennedy Half Silver 1964	Cent Planchet	$1,000	$1,250	$1,500	$2,000
Kennedy Half Silver 1964	Nickel Planchet	$1,000	$1,250	$1,500	$2,000
Kennedy Half Silver 1964	Dime Planchet	$1,000	$1,250	$2,000	$2,500
Kennedy Half Silver 1964	Quarter Planchet	$400	$500	$600	$750
Kennedy Half Clad	Cent Planchet	$750	$850	$1,000	$1,500
Kennedy Half Clad	Nickel Planchet	$750	$850	$1,000	$1,250
Kennedy Half Clad	Dime Planchet	$750	$850	$1,000	$1,400
Kennedy Half Clad	Quarter Planchet	$350	$400	$450	$500
Kennedy Half 1964 Transitional	Clad Half Planchet	$3,500	$4,500	$6,000	$10,000
Kennedy Half 1965 Transitional	Silver Half Planchet	$5,000	$6,500	$7,500	$10,000
Kennedy Half 1964 Transitional	Clad Quarter Planchet	$3,000	$4,000	$6,000	$7,500
Kennedy Half 1965 Transitional	Silver Quarter Planchet	$7,000	$8,000	$9,000	$10,000
Ike Dollar	Cent Planchet	$7,500	$10,000	$12,500	$15,000
Ike Dollar	Nickel Planchet	$10,000	$12,500	$15,000	$20,000
Ike Dollar	Dime Planchet	$7,500	$8,500	$10,000	$12,500
Ike Dollar	Quarter Planchet	$7,000	$10,000	$12,500	$15,000
Ike Dollar	Half Planchet	$1,600	$1,750	$2,000	$3,000
Ike Dollar	Foreign Planchet	$900	$1,000	$1,250	$1,500
Ike Dollar Transitional	40% Silver Planchet	$2,750	$3,000	$3,500	$5,000
SBA Dollar	Cent Planchet	N/A	$1,750	$3,000	$5,000
SBA Dollar	Nickel Planchet	N/A	$6,000	$7,000	$8,000
SBA Dollar	Dime Planchet	N/A	$6,000	$7,000	$10,000
SBA Dollar	Quarter Planchet	N/A	$600	$850	$1,000
Sac Dollar	Cent Planchet	N/A	$12,500	$15,000	$20,000
Sac Dollar	Nickel Planchet	N/A	$12,500	$15,000	$20,000
Sac Dollar	Dime Planchet	N/A	$8,000	$15,000	$20,000
Sac Dollar	Quarter Planchet	N/A	$1,500	$2,000	$2,500

Counterbrockages
(Updated November 2024)

A counterbrockage error involves a cap die and a previously struck coin. When a cap die strikes a previously struck coin, the obverse design from that struck coin will be impressed into the cap. The result will be a design where the cap face will be an incuse brockage. When a new blank is struck by this cap die with an incuse brockage image, the obverse will have a raised and spread image from that incuse design of the cap. This brockage impression is known as a counterbrockage.

Denomination	Circulated	AU	Unc	Choice Unc - Gem
Indian Cent	$1,000	$1,500	$2,000	$2,500
Lincoln Cent 1943 Steel	$500	$750	$1,500	$2,000
Lincoln Cent Wheat Ears	$200	$200	$300	$500
Lincoln Cent Memorial	$40	$50	$75	$100
Shield Nickel	$1,500	$2,000	$4,000	$5,000
Liberty Nickel	$1,500	$2,000	$4,000	$5,000
Jefferson Nickel	$50	$100	$150	$200
Barber Dime	$3,000	$5,000	$7,500	$10,000
Roosevelt Dime Silver	$300	$500	$750	$1,000
Roosevelt Dime Clad	$100	$150	$250	$300
Washington Quarter Silver	$500	$1,000	$1,500	$2,000
Washington Quarter Clad	$100	$200	$300	$400
State Quarter	N/A	$750	$1,250	$1,500
Kennedy Half Silver	$1,250	$2,000	$3,000	$4,000
Kennedy Half Clad	$500	$750	$1,250	$1,500
SBA Dollar	N/A	$2,000	$3,000	$4,000

Fold-Over Strikes
(Updated November 2024)

A fold-over coin is one of the most dramatic types of errors. It occurs when the blank is standing vertically between the dies. During the strike, the force is so great that it bends and folds the blank. These fold-overs can be on-center or off-center, and come in many different shapes. There are a few fold-overs with multiple errors, either with an additional strike or fold-over. Denominations above quarters are very scarce.

Denomination	AU	AU Dated	Unc	Unc Dated
Indian Cent Memorial Copper	$1,000	$1,250	$1,250	$1,500
Lincoln Cent Memorial Zinc	$750	$1,000	$1,000	$1,250
Jefferson Nickel	$2,500	$3,000	$3,000	$4,000
Roosevelt Dime Silver	$4,000	$5,000	$5,000	$6,000
Roosevelt Dime Clad	$3,000	$3,500	$3,500	$4,500
Washington Quarter Silver	$4,000	$5,000	$5,000	$10,000
Washington Quarter Clad	$3,500	$4,000	$4,000	$5,000
State Quarter	$5,000	$6,000	$6,000	$8,500

Martha Washington Test Pieces
(Updated November 2024)

There is one set of a Dime, Quarter and Half struck by Martha Washington dies that are permanently housed in the Smithsonian Institute, embedded in blocks of lucite. According to United States Pattern and Related Issues, by Andrew W. Pollock III, "the only trial pieces purported to have survived metallurgical testing in 1965 were the Dime, Quarter Dollar, and Half Dollar equivalent strikes in copper-nickel clad over copper."

Mike Byers' discovery of the Martha Washington Test Piece on a copper-zinc Cent planchet struck 10% off-center with a uniface reverse was a front page Coin World article on August 7th, 2000.

Denomination	Unc	Choice	Gem
Martha Cent	$4,000	$5,000	$6,000
Martha Nickel	$4,500	$6,000	$7,500
Martha Dime	$7,500	$10,000	$12,500
Martha Quarter	$5,000	$7,500	$10,000
Martha Half Dollar	$5,000	$7,500	$10,000
Martha Dollar (SBA Planchet)	$10,000	$12,500	$15,000
Martha Dollar (Sac Planchet)	$6,000	$7,500	$10,000

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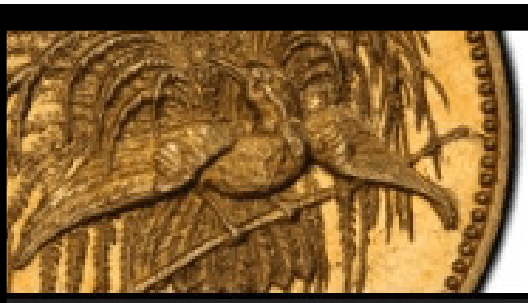

RON GUTH, C.P.A.

German coin specialist

Ron Guth, Numismatic Expert

Ron Guth is a recognized authority on United States and German coins. He is a licensed Certified Public Accountant who has been involved professionally in numismatics for over fifty years as a collector, dealer, researcher, and writer. His books and articles have earned numerous awards, including the American Numismatic Association's Heath Literary award and the Olga & Wayte Raymond awards, the Numismatic Literary Guild's Best Numismatic Investment Book and Best Book of the Year awards, and the Professional Numismatic Guild's Best Book of the Year award. In 2003, Ron received the prestigious President's Award from the American Numismatic Association in recognition of his numerous contributions to numismatics. In 2021, Coin World named Ron as one of the Top Ten Most Influential People in Numismatics for the sixty-year period from 1960-2020.

Ron created the CoinFacts website (now PCGS CoinFacts) in 1999 and sold the website to Collectors Universe in 2004 (where it is now presented as PCGS CoinFacts. Ron served in various capacities at Collectors Universe, including Director of Numismatic Research, President of the Professional Coin Grading Service, and President of PCGS CoinFacts.

Currently, Ron serves as proprietor of GermanCoins.com and as Chief Investigator at the Numismatic Detective Agency, where he provides expert provenance on high-end coins.

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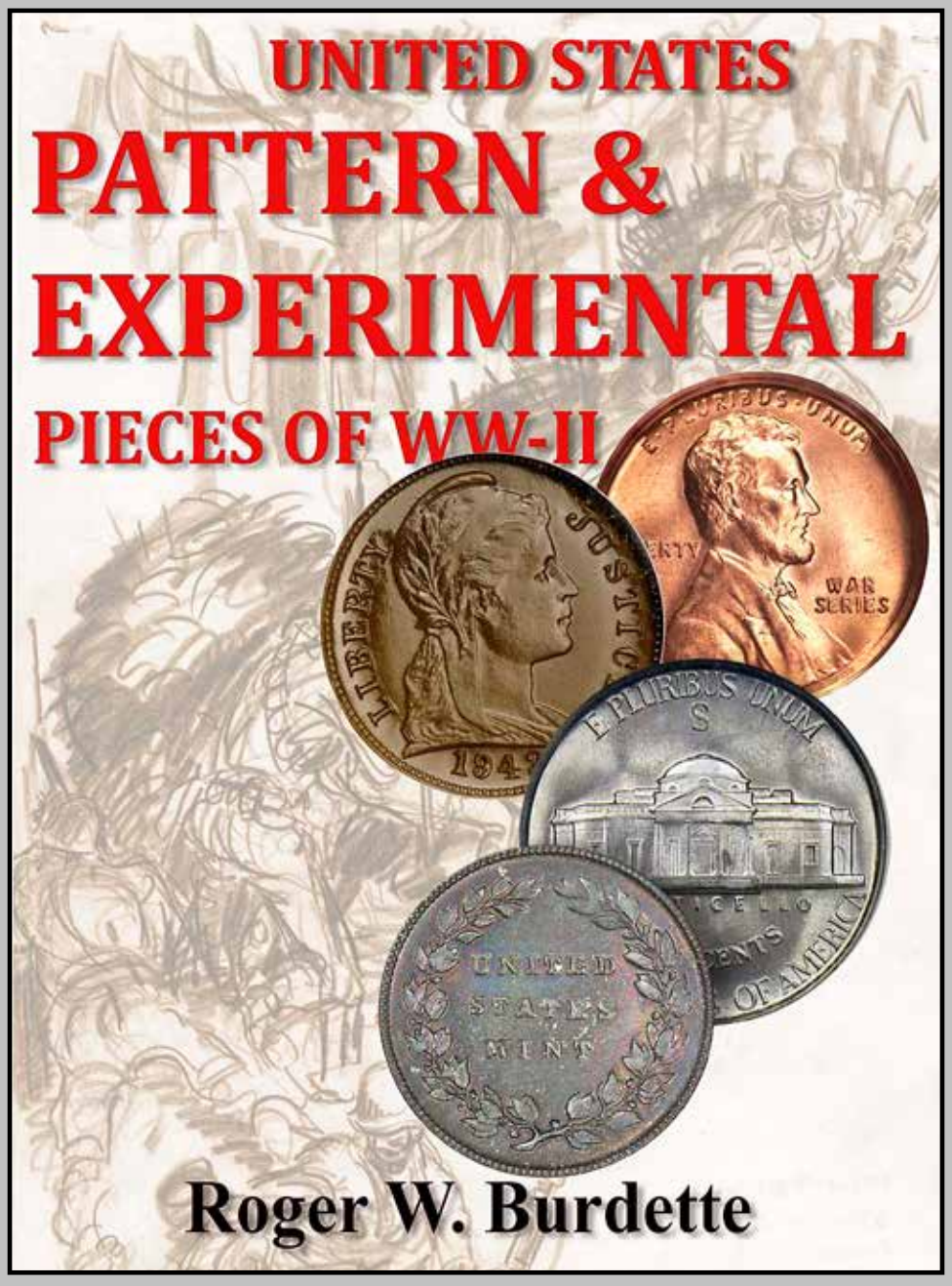

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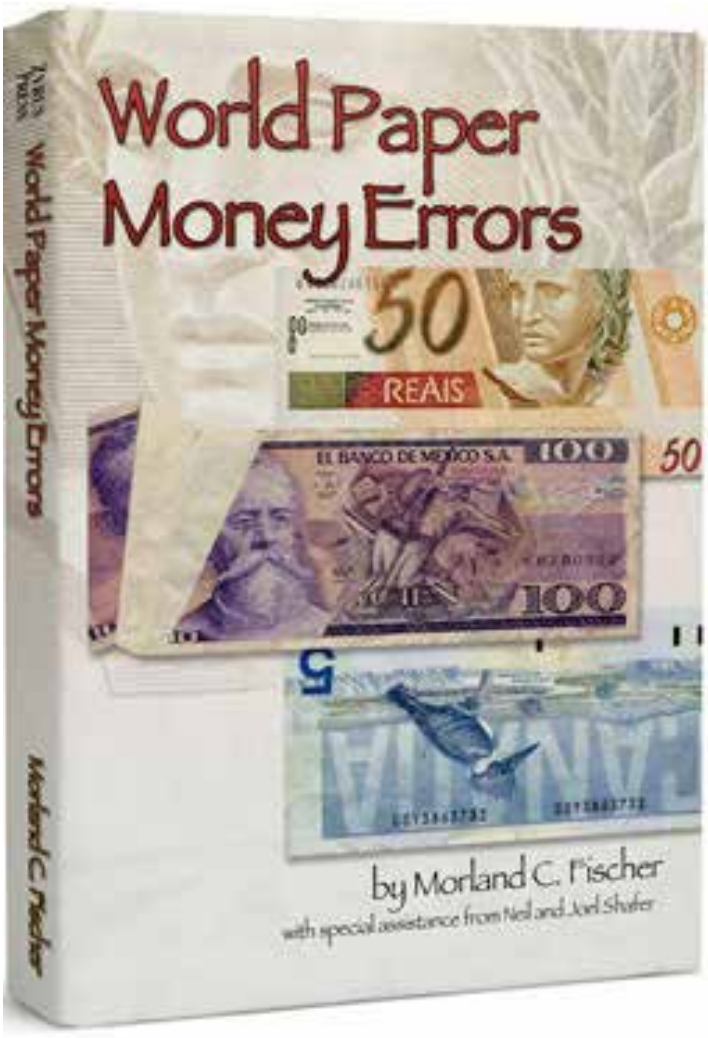

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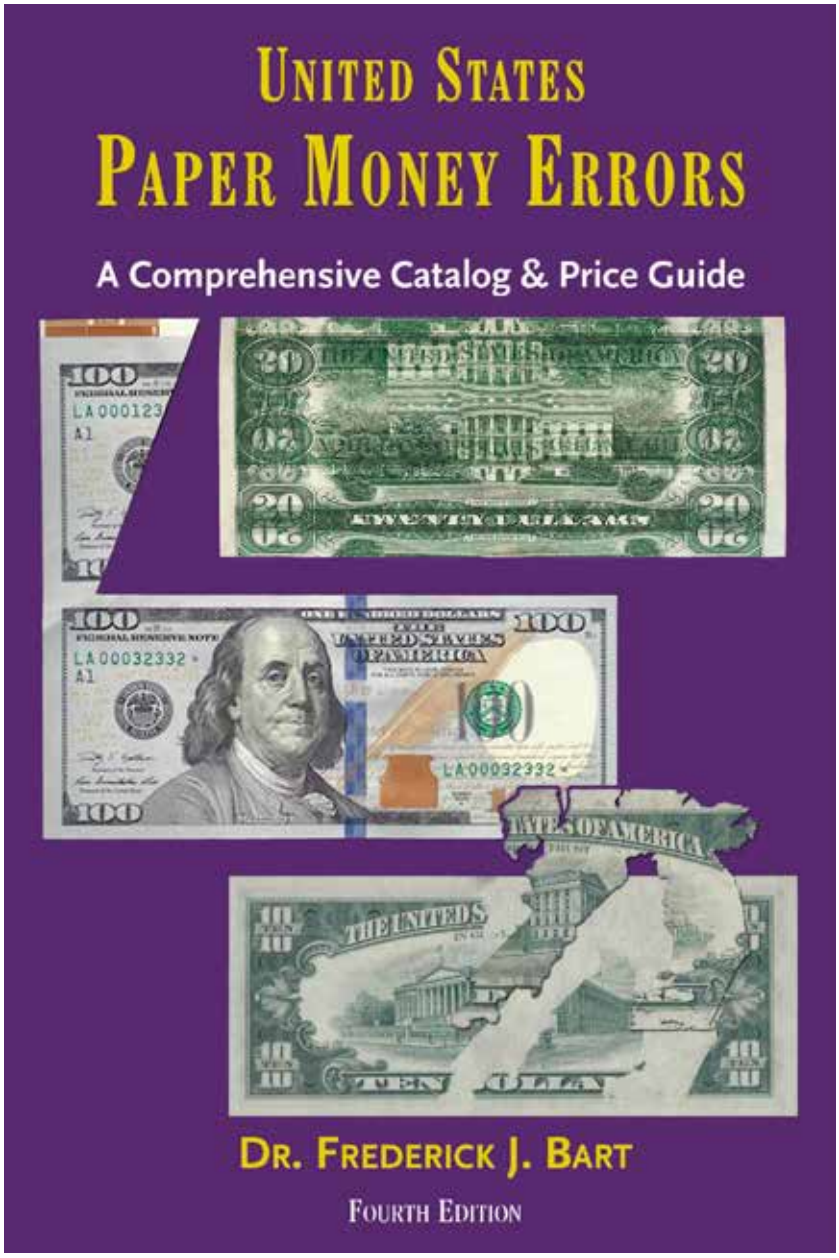
New Edition of Bart's United States Paper Money Errors Available Now



Comprehensive Catalog and Price Guide makes first appearance since 2008

By Coin & Currency Institute….

After a lapse of seven years, a new edition of United States Paper Money Errors, Fred Bart's ground-breaking book is now available. The fourth edition is more than just an update to the third: Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) errors have been added, nearly all the illustrations have been changed, there is a rarity guide for each note–which additionally are now priced in four grades (EF, AU, Choice CU and Gem CU)–and, for the first time, there is a section showing some notes in color.

This has always been an enormously popular book, not only among established collectors but also with newcomers seeking to learn more about their "find." There is no other book like it on the market. More than a price guide, its 296 pages contain a wealth of information on what to look for and what mistakes to avoid. It is a necessity for all dealers, collectors, and anyone who comes into regular contact with paper money.

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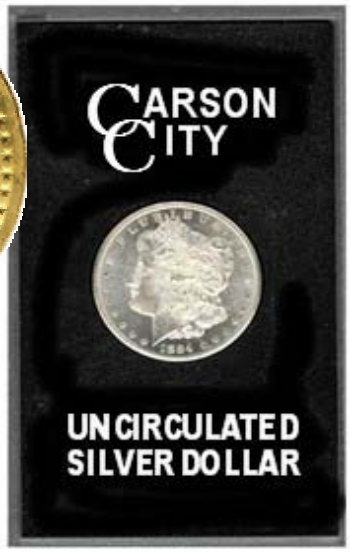

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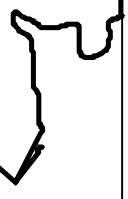

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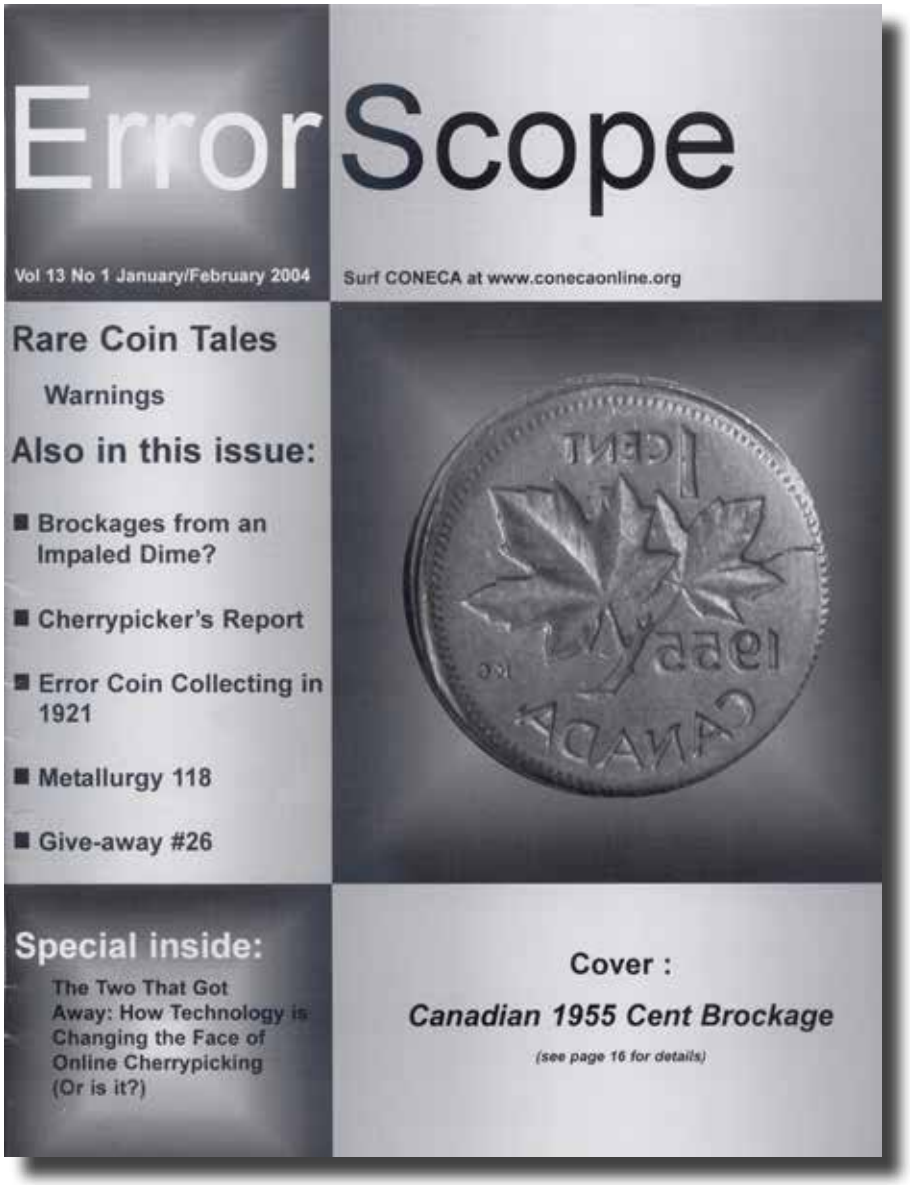
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Vol 13 No 1 January/February 2004
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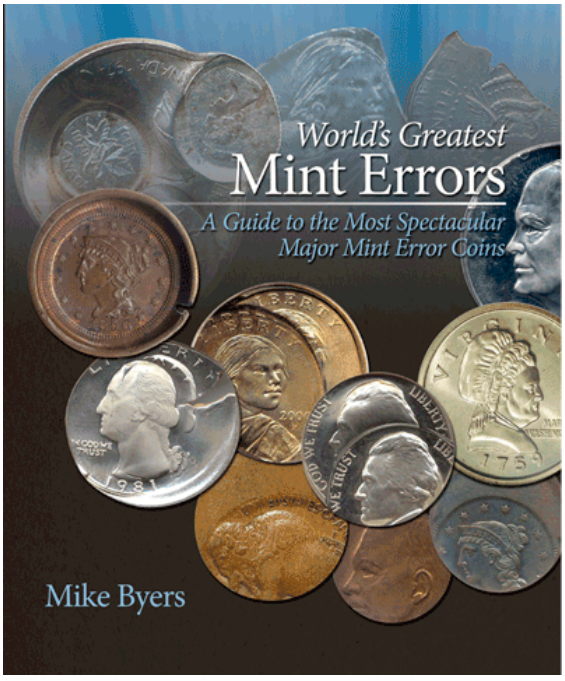

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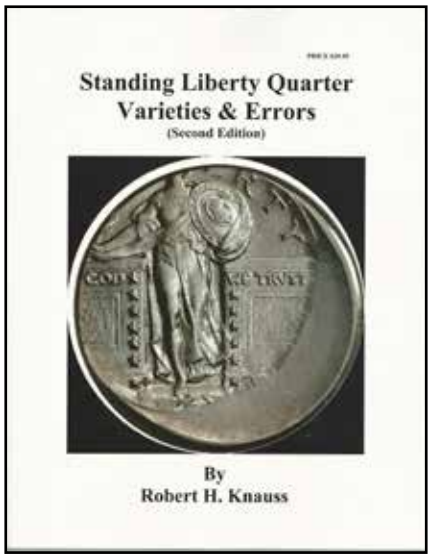

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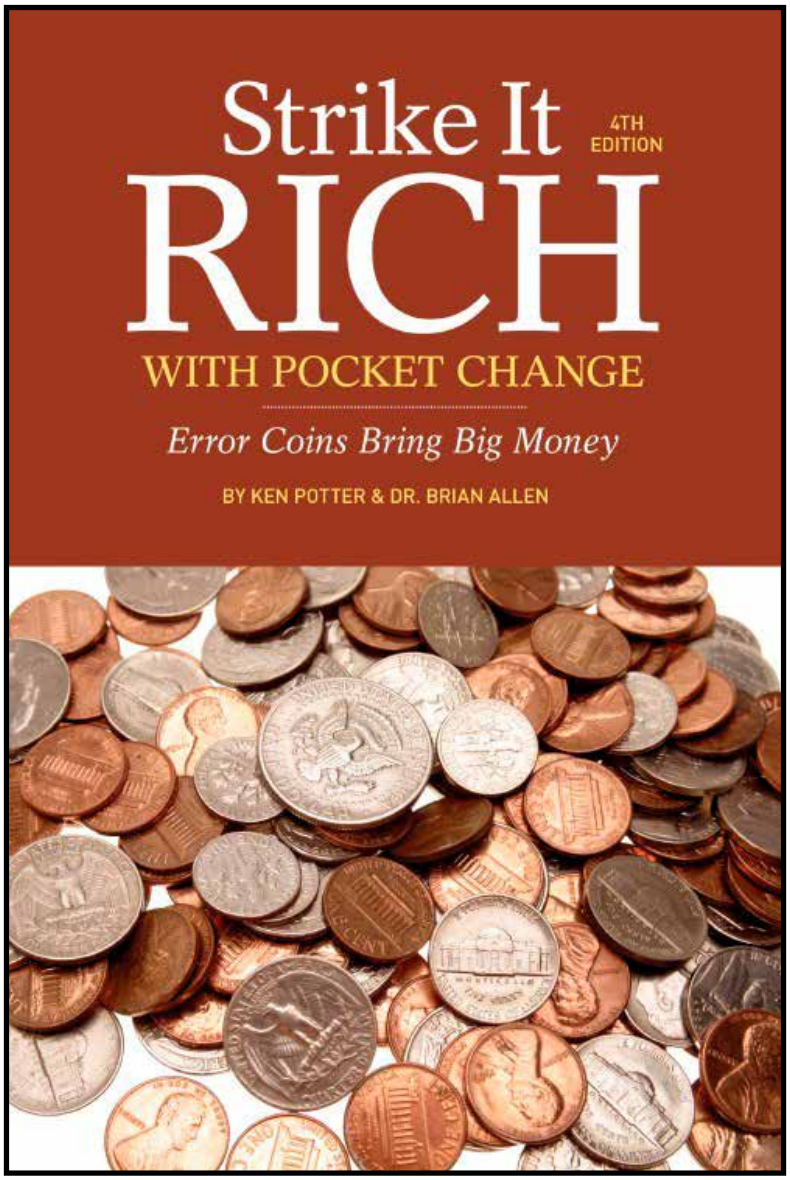

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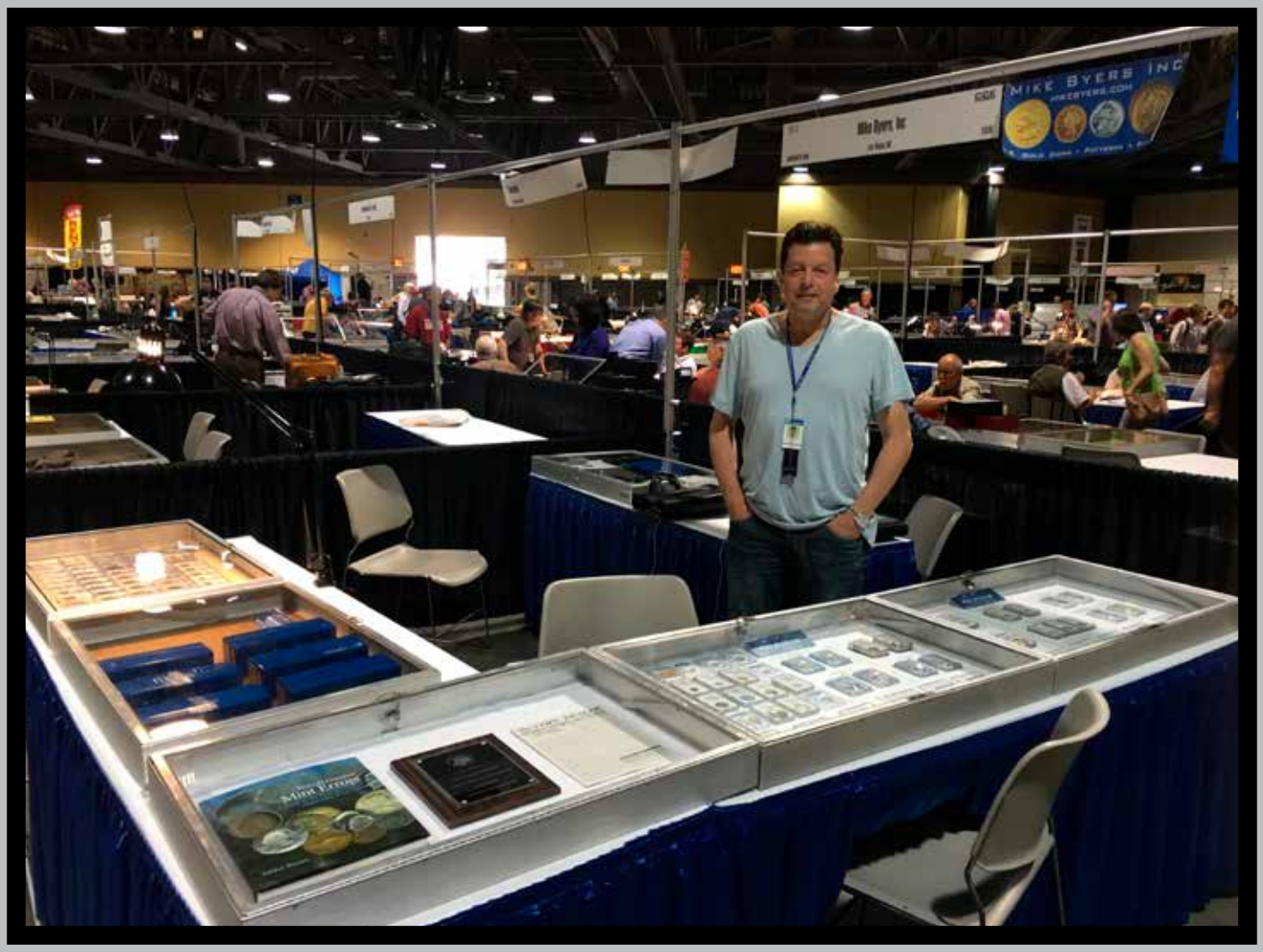
MINT ERROR NEWS GLOSSARY

What Are Uncancelled Dies?

Uncancelled dies made at the U.S. Mint are extremely rare in private hands. These have been authenticated and certified by NGC. In addition to the unique Martha Washington Cent Size uncancelled die, there are two known that are Half Dollar size. A 1967 Philippines 10 Sentimos uncancelled obverse die was also certified and featured in the NGC article on uncancelled dies. Recently, five uncancelled Costa Rica dies surfaced, including the unique 1897 2 Colones proof obverse die.

This is the *only known* Martha Washington Cent Size Uncancelled Die in private hands. It was featured on the cover of Mint Error News Magazine Issue 51. There are only two other Martha Washington Uncancelled Dies known. These are both Half Dollar Size dies. They were used to strike the half dollar obverse for the experimental patterns. These half dollar obverse Martha Washington Dies were purchased by Mike Byers. The first one discovered was featured in Coin Week and also featured on the cover of Mint Error News Magazine Issue 44 (Spring 2018).

2024 & 2025 Coin Shows



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Mike Byers was a consultant to ANACS for Mint Errors from 2000 to 2006. He is also the Publisher and Editor of Mint Error News Magazine and the Mint Error News Website that was founded in 2003. In 2009, Mike Byers published his first book, World's Greatest Mint Errors, which received the NLG Award for Best World Coin Book and is available on Amazon.com.

Mike Byers is a life member of ANA since 1985, a charter member of NGC and a featured dealer/member of PCGS. He is also a life member of the Central States Numismatic Society and the Florida United Numismatists. He is a member of CDN Exchange (BYRS).

Mike Byers was born in the coin business attending coin shows since he was six years old. When he was seventeen, he issued his first coin catalog. He has been a Market-Maker in U.S. Gold Coins and a dealer in major mint errors. In 1987 he offered limited partnerships and rare coin funds. He has written articles for The Coin Dealer Newsletter and has been featured on the front page of Coin World numerous times with his numismatic rarities. Mike Byers is a contributing author on mint errors for CoinWeek. He also assisted with the mint error section of Coin Facts on the PCGS website. You can visit Mike Byers and view his rarities at the ANA, Central States, FUN show and the Long Beach Coin Expo.

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